

2022

DONOR DIGEST

Issue #1. March 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01** Introduction
- 02** A Life Saving Calculator
- 03** My Genetic Counselling Journey
- 04** Celebrating Women in Science
- 05** Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends.

We hope the start of 2022 has been a fruitful and meaningful one for you.

For us at Cancer Research Malaysia, it marks another year of new opportunities to reverse cancer and save lives. This year, we're excited to share a new initiative with you!

Welcome to the very 1st edition of our bi-monthly Donor Digest! Every 2 months, we'll be sharing updates on how your support is making a difference and we trust you'll be encouraged to know how your generous giving is changing lives.

We have many exciting stories to share with you over the coming months and hope that by reading through these updates, you will be able to witness the tangible impact of your contribution at full display.

From all of us at Cancer Research Malaysia, a big and heartfelt thank you. The impact you are creating in the fight against cancer is significant and immensely meaningful. Thank you!

THE CANCER RESEARCH MALAYSIA TEAM



A LIFESAVING CALCULATOR



Tailored specifically for Asian women, we've created **ARiCa**, the **Asian Genetic Risk Calculator** - it's the first prediction tool for Asian breast cancer patients to calculate their probability of carrying a faulty BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene.

Why does this matter? These faulty genes are associated with increased risk of breast, ovarian, prostate and/or pancreatic cancer.

With ARiCa, patients and their families can be aware of their individual risk and be empowered to make better prevention or treatment decisions with healthcare professionals.

For more insights on ARiCa, check out our blog post [HERE!](#)

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MY GENETIC COUNSELLING JOURNEY

"I'm glad to have undergone a positive life changing journey the moment I stepped into Cancer Research Malaysia."

3 years ago, Lina* a breast cancer survivor, discovered she carried a mutated gene that significantly increased her risk of ovarian cancer, especially with age. Prior to her genetic test, she connected with Cancer Research Malaysia for genetic counselling:

“At my 1st genetic counselling session, the counsellor explained and help me better understand what genetic testing includes so I could make an informed decision about doing a genetic test. Initially, I struggled with my genetic report as I had no family history of cancer. But I continued to do plenty of research and asked my genetic counsellor many questions to measure my cancer risk, understand preventive options and gain clarity to make the right decision.”

Armed with the information and understanding she needed, Lina made the bold decision to undergo a preventive procedure to manage her increased risk of ovarian cancer. Today, she is a passionate advocate of genetic counselling and the difference it has made in her life.

“The anxiety I had previously is now gone. I'm thankful for the choice I had to do something about my risk. I can confidently say, genetic counselling and testing saves lives.”

*Patient name has been changed to protect the patient's privacy

Your support helped us make Malaysia the first Asian country with nationwide access to genetic counselling. [Read more about our genetic counselling work here!](#)



CELEBRATING WOMEN IN SCIENCE!



Meet Shivanni, our in-house scientist who is working on enhancing breast cancer screening practices to improve survival rates.

With an interest in genetics, human biology and diseases from a young age, she took hold of the opportunity to do her internship with Cancer Research Malaysia some 13 years ago and has never looked back since. Grateful for the positive culture and progressive research environment, she values opportunities to collaborate with leading researchers globally.

Shivaani is diligently playing her part in contributing to global cancer research.

“Know that your work will contribute to society in the future and don’t be bogged down by the challenges you face. There’s a bigger picture beyond ourselves.”

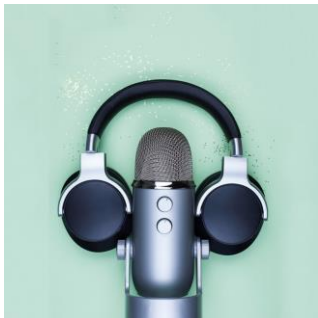
- Shivaani, when asked what drives her to make the world a better place

CONCLUSION

Thank you again for contributing towards the fight against cancer. Your valuable support makes all of these stories and more possible. More updates and stories will be coming your way in our next Donor Digest!

Till we meet again, take care and stay safe!

Before we sign off, here are some ways you can consider to continue to make a difference:



In conjunction with World Cancer Day in February, our Chief Scientific Officer, Professor Dr Teo Soo Hwang joined BFM Radio to discuss the problems behind inequalities to cancer care and what lies ahead for Cancer Research Malaysia in 2022.

Listen to it [HERE](#) and share it with your friends and family to raise awareness.



Know of other organisations or individuals that are passionate to advance the fight against cancer?

Make your recommendations known [HERE](#)

We love building connections and growing our support community! The cause is too great, and lives too precious to ignore!

TOGETHER, we can save lives and make a whole lot of difference!



We thank you for your continued support!
Towards A Future Free of The Fear of Cancer

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