



Our investment in metastatic breast cancer research

In 2018, the Canadian Cancer Society invested \$4 million in projects specifically focused on metastatic breast cancer (MBC). This represented over one-third of its total \$11.5 million breast cancer research investment last year. Through partnerships, CCS leveraged another \$600,000 for a total of \$4.6 million.

In the last 10 years, CCS and the former Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation have together invested more than \$55 million in MBC research, representing more than 25% of their total breast cancer research investment.

Current research topics include:

- Microscopic metastases with a simple blood test to better target treatments
- The effect of diet and exercise in chemotherapy response in patients with MBC
- How breast cancer develops and spreads to different organs, and new ways to stop it
- New ways to deliver drugs to metastatic breast tumours to maximize their effectiveness and limit side effects

Metastatic Breast Cancer Dream Team

In August 2019, CCS collaborated with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and Stand Up to Cancer (SU2C) Canada to announce the SU2C Canada Metastatic Breast Cancer Dream Team.

The Dream Team will receive up to \$6 million in funding over 4 years to conduct a nationwide clinical trial to test a new way of treating metastatic breast cancer. The trial's goal is to stop cancer cells from becoming aggressive and spreading to other organs. The Team is led by Dr Nahum Sonenberg of McGill University and Dr Michael Pollak of Lady Davis Institute and brings together a team of top cancer researchers from Edmonton, Kingston, Montreal, Vancouver and Victoria.

The work of the SU2C Canada Metastatic Breast Cancer Dream Team could lead to a new approach to target this hard-to-treat disease.