

Research Seminar Series

Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Thursday April 1, 2010, 12:00pm

Opportunities and challenges in studies of early life factors in breast cancer: Studies in young women and girls

Julia Knight, PhD

Associate Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Senior Investigator, Prosserman Centre for Health Research, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute

Seminar Description:



Breast cancer etiology is complex and still imperfectly understood. Interest is increasingly focused on periods of life when the breast develops or undergoes major changes. Studies of factors influencing breast and hormone development in adolescence and early adulthood remain challenging. I will discuss some of the studies that we have been doing on factors that may influence hormonal and/or breast development in young women and girls and on a method of studying breast tissue using light transmission.

Guest Speaker Biography:

Julia Knight, PhD is a senior investigator in the Prosserman Centre for Health Research at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital and an Associate Professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. She is an epidemiologist by training and her research program has focused on understanding the genetic and non-genetic causes of cancer, particularly breast cancer, with a view to disease prevention. Some areas of interest include vitamin D, melatonin and circadian disruption, alcohol, hormones, and body composition.

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