



**Susan G. Komen for the Cure® BMJ Statement
August 2, 2012**

Susan G. Komen for the Cure issued the following statement today from Chandini Portteus, Vice President of Research, Evaluation and Scientific Programs, regarding a British Medical Journal opinion piece on mammography.

"Everyone agrees that mammography isn't perfect, but it's the best widely available detection tool that we have today. We've said for years that science has to do better, which is why Komen is putting millions of dollars into research to detect breast cancer before symptoms start, through biomarkers, for example.

"Komen also is funding research to help accurately predict which tumors will spread and which won't. While we invest in getting those answers, we think it's simply irresponsible to effectively discourage women from taking steps to know what's going on with their health.

"We have long advocated for women to be informed about the benefits and risks of early detection and treatment. We encourage women to work with their healthcare providers to find out what's right for them.

"At the same time, Komen is funding millions of dollars in community health programs that educate, screen and provide financial and social support for low-income and uninsured women through treatment."

"The numbers are not in question. Early detection allows for early treatment, which gives women the best chance of surviving breast cancer."

Komen's recommendations for breast cancer screening can be found at www.komen.org. The link to the screening page itself is:
<http://ww5.komen.org/breastcancer/earlydetectionampscreening.html>