

2026 RESEARCH FAST FACTS

Precision Medicine: Overview



RESEARCH INVESTMENT AT A GLANCE: (1982-2026)

Over **\$380** million in nearly **800** research grants and over **140** clinical trials focused on precision medicine



57% focus on treatment



ABOUT PRECISION MEDICINE

Cancer care has moved away from a “one-size-fits-all” approach toward a more individualized approach called precision medicine. [Precision medicine](#), also called personalized medicine, tailors treatment by taking into account the unique differences in an individual’s genes, lifestyle and environment. This allows researchers to more accurately predict which treatment strategies will work best among diverse groups of people, addressing the complexity of the disease as well as its many types and causes.

Learn more about Precision Medicine [here](#).

WHAT WE’RE INVESTIGATING



Testing if novel combinations of the drug mocetinostat with the chemotherapy drug SN-38 or the antibody-drug conjugate sacituzumab govitecan improve treatment response and overcomes drug resistance in hormone receptor-positive and triple negative breast cancers.



Identifying new biomarkers that can predict if certain people with [triple negative breast cancer](#) will respond to Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator (SARM) drugs, which may be more effective and have fewer side effects than chemotherapy.



The Phase II ETHAN clinical trial is testing different endocrine therapies in men with breast cancer to determine which are most effective to improve outcomes for male breast cancer.

IN THE KOMEN RESEARCH PIPELINE: (1982-2026)

More than **2,400** potential **new research discoveries** (drugs, biomarkers, devices, etc.) focused on precision medicine and/or treatment.

SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Patrick Derksen is using his Komen Opportunity Grant to study how some [invasive lobular carcinomas](#) (ILC), recur after being dormant, as well as testing combination therapies to treat ILC.

WHAT WE’VE LEARNED FROM KOMEN-FUNDED RESEARCH

- A new study reported that HER2 protein levels in tissue and blood predict response to the antibody-drug conjugate trastuzumab deruxtecan (T-DXd) in people with metastatic breast cancer.
- Evaluation of the HER2DX tumor genomic test across multiple studies confirmed its reliability at predicting outcomes for people with early-stage HER2-positive breast cancer, showing it can be used to personalize treatment strategies.
- A recent study showed that a new artificial intelligence (AI) tool (Orpheus) may predict the [risk of recurrence](#) in some people with early-stage hormone receptor-positive breast cancer by analyzing microscopic features of breast tumor tissue.



LEARN MORE ABOUT BREAST CANCER

MORE KOMEN-FUNDED RESEARCH STORIES

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