

# *Cancer Facts Kit*

## Quick Facts



### *Breast Cancer Facts*

- Breast cancer is the most common cancer among Australian women, accounting for 28% of all cancer diagnoses in 2011.
- One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer before the age of 85.
- The risk of breast cancer increases with age.
- In 2015 it is estimated that 180 women will develop breast cancer < age 50.
- It is estimated that in 2009 there were 168,142 women alive who had been diagnosed with breast cancer in the previous 28 years.



### *Ovarian Cancer Facts*

- Ovarian cancer is the 9th most common cancer diagnosed in Australian women, and the second most commonly diagnosed gynaecological cancer.
- The number of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer in Australia increased from 835 in 1982 to 1,272 in 2008.
- An estimated 1,488 women are expected to be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in Australia in 2015.
- One in 79 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer before the age of 85.

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### *Hereditary Cancer Facts*

- In some cases the cancer is caused by a mutation in a hereditary gene that can be passed along from generation to generation. Although this is often referred to as inherited cancer, what is inherited is the gene mutation that can lead to cancer, not the cancer itself.
- About 1 in 20 (5%) of women with breast cancer have a inherited mutation in a known high risk cancer gene.
- Men and women can inherit hereditary cancer gene mutations.
- It is important to look at each side of the family separately. Having a family history of more than one relative, and where those relatives are both on the same side of the family would require assessment by your doctor.