

Study Updates

- **Continuation Study** – we are asking participants who are finishing the study if they want to continue to participate for **two more years**. We will obtain verbal consent during your final phone call or mail you a consent form to sign & return in a prepaid envelope. We will call or email you **once a month** and mail you saliva kits **twice a year**. **Thank you to our ladies who have already rejoined! We are so happy to have you back.**
- **Website Development** – we are in the **beginning stages** of creating a website for our TINV study! The website will provide information and updates about the study. We will be providing helpful links for all of our study participants. There will also be a Meet the Team section with information about the team members working with our ladies. We hope this will be a way to communicate and show all the progress the TINV study is making!
- **We hope you have a joyful winter season and a Happy New Year!**

About Us

Our Team

We are so proud to introduce our team to new study participants. **Sue** is the person in charge of this study. **Caroline** manages day-to-day study needs and hiring. **Karen** is a PhD nursing student. **Erin** and **Sofie** are Clinical Research Associates. **Danielle, Katie H., Katie O., and Kiley** are Pitt Nursing students who are part of a research mentorship program. We could not do this study without our wonderful surgeons: **Dr. Diego, Dr. McAuliffe, Dr. Steiman, and Dr. Lee.**



Photo: Spreading some holiday cheer at our virtual team meeting!

Top (from left): Erin, Caroline, Katie H. Middle (from left): Danielle, Sofie, Karen. Bottom (from left): Kiley, Sue. Not Pictured: Katie O.



TREATMENT INDUCED
NAUSEA & VOMITING (TINV)
STUDY
3500 Victoria St
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



TREATMENT INDUCED NAUSEA & VOMITING (TINV) STUDY

Winter 2020-21 Newsletter



Thanks for being part of our study!

With your help, we hope to...

- Measure how nausea varies based on treatment
- Identify symptoms and characteristics that may be related to nausea
- Look at specific genes that could predict nausea

In the long run, this research could inform the development of personalized treatment to control nausea in women with breast cancer.

Recruitment Update

While we typically recruit new study participants in the hospital, we have been doing this from home. Since the end of September, Erin and Sofie have recruited 20 new women to join our study! Welcome!

F31 Grant Application

Karen, a PhD student on the team, recently applied to the National Institutes of Health for financial support of her research on the unique pain needs of women with breast cancer who are 65+ and how they communicate with their health care team when they experience pain. For those of you who are 65 or older, you will be invited to share your thoughts!

Remote Work FYI

Our team members are from several different states. When we call, you may see an area code that you do not recognize, as we have been calling from our cellphones while working from home.

Keep an eye out for these area codes:

- Katie H. – 302
- Katie O. – 315
- Erin and Sue – 412
- Danielle – 570
- Caroline – 571
- Karen – 615
- Kiley – 631
- Sofie – 713

Publications in Progress

Our team has begun looking at the preliminary study findings. We are working on several papers that we aim to get published in academic journals.

NimbleMiner

NimbleMiner is a “Natural Language Processing” computer software. This means it recognizes and understands any human language. It can read text stored on a computer and extract information from the text. Really, NimbleMiner is doing exactly what we do when we read, except much faster. It reads thousands of words and makes meaningful connections between them in a few seconds. This software also recognizes synonyms like “tired,” “fatigued,” or “drowsy.” **We are excited to use this tool to read through notes we have captured outside of survey questions to learn more about your personal experiences and symptoms following breast cancer surgery!**

Postoperative Pain Management

Over half of participants aged 65+ did not take prescription pain medications after surgery. Few were in pain severe enough to need pain medication after going home. Of the women who needed strong pain medicine, most only took 1-2 prescribed pain pills. **Since the Fall newsletter, this manuscript has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Pain Management in Nursing*.**