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## **Hackley Hospital Seeks Breast Cancer Study Participants**

**Muskegon, MI** – The Hackley Cancer Center is recruiting postmenopausal women to join a national clinical trial studying breast cancer and use of two drugs known commonly as Tamoxifen and Raloxifene. The study is being conducted as part of Hackley’s partnership with the Grand Rapids Clinical Oncology Program (GRCOP), a community based cancer research program funded in part by the National Cancer Institute.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for local women to be part of a groundbreaking, national study in the prevention of breast cancer,” states Lucinda Wiseman, Director of Cancer Services at Hackley Hospital.

To be eligible for the trial, women must be postmenopausal and have an increased risk of developing breast cancer. Significant risk factors for developing breast cancer include a family history, especially in a mother, sister, or daughter, increasing age, never having borne a child, having given birth to a first child after the age of 30, first menstrual period at an early age, a history of benign breast disease requiring biopsies, and other breast conditions such as lobular carcinoma or atypical hyperplasia. There is no cost to participate in the study.

In the trial known as STAR, two drugs, tamoxifen and raloxifene, will be compared for their effectiveness in reducing the occurrence of breast cancer in postmenopausal women. Tamoxifen is a drug that has been studied for more than 20 years and is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for reducing the incidence of invasive breast cancer for women at high risk of the disease. Raloxifene is a drug not as thoroughly researched but suggested to have the same ability. Both drugs have been shown to protect bone in women.

For more information, please contact Hackley Cancer Center’s Clinical Trial Nurse and Nurse Practitioner Jan Cooper at 231.728.4606.

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