DBT-THSTI joins Indio-UK partnership for SURAKSHA – The project on Breast Cancer risk prediction, testing and health management

Dr. Nitya Wadhwa working as Assistant Professor at Department of Biotechnology’s institute, the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad has been awarded the Seed Funding grant under the affordable approaches to cancer research initiative of DBT India and Cancer Research, UK for her project - SURAKSHA: South Asian Breast Cancer Risk Prediction, Genetic testing and Health Management (SURAKSHA). The project proposes to improve identification of Indian women at increased breast cancer-risk with affordable and effective early-detection/prevention interventions.

Breast-cancer (BC) is the commonest female malignancy in India and UK with 150,000 and 54,541 new cases, respectively, in 2016. Significant differences exist in BC incidence rates between India and UK. Among Indian states probably due to variations in the prevalence of known and novel/undiscovered risk-factors (RFs).

There is limited data on the associations between risk-factors and breast cancer in South-Asian populations. Validated BC risk-prediction models (e.g.-BOADICEA/CANRISK developed for women of European ancestry) along with unselected genetic testing of breast cancer patients can improve morbidity/mortality through well-established early-detection/prevention interventions.