

genetest

From: Kim Irish <kirish@bcaction.org>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 3:35 PM
To: genetest
Cc: Kim Irish
Subject: Genetic Testing Study

The following comments are from Breast Cancer Action. Please contact Kim Irish, Program Manager at kirish@bcaction.org with questions.

Sincerely,

Kim

Breast Cancer Action (BCAction) is a national education and advocacy organization that carries the voices of women affected by breast cancer—living with and at risk of the disease—in order to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. We represent over 40,000 members nationwide, some of whom have a known BRCA mutation, some of whom do not know if they have a BRCA mutation, and some of whom have no known mutation. We accomplish our mission through working on our three program priorities – putting patients first, where we advocate for more effective and less toxic breast cancer treatments by shifting the balance of power in the Food and Drug Administration’s drug approval process away from the pharmaceutical industry and toward the public interest, creating healthy environments, where we work to decrease involuntary environmental exposures that put people at risk for breast cancer, and eliminating social inequities, where we work to create awareness that it is not just genes, but social injustices that lead to disparities in breast cancer incidence and outcomes. We are also plaintiffs in the lawsuit against Myriad Genetics.

Breast Cancer Action opposes gene patents because they harm women in five key ways:

1. They harm women who have not been able to get information about whether or not they have a mutation that increases their risk of breast and ovarian cancer.

- Some women can’t get the test because of the monopoly and high cost.
- The test may not look at some women’s particular mutation (because even the second test combined with the first doesn’t look at every possible mutation, just the common ones).
- Women who had the test with an indeterminate result are also harmed, because it is not clear from this whether their risk of breast and ovarian cancer increases.

2. Women who were able to get genetic testing and have a clear result are also harmed because:

- They should have access to independent second opinion testing before making decisions about organ-removing surgery.

3. Finally, both groups of women suffer when there are impediments to potentially life saving research.

Not all patients are equally harmed. Sometimes things go dramatically wrong and women are unable to get the information they need. Other times, it seems that things work as they should when women are able to get

information on their mutation. But even in these seemingly “best case” scenarios, there are important ways that gene patents harm women.

The first reason Breast Cancer Action opposes Myriad Genetics’ patents on the BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 genes is that the monopoly means that too many women can’t access this expensive test. Myriad’s monopoly also means that there is no competition present from other companies whatsoever. There are no other options for patients to choose from, so the cost remains high and out of reach for far too many women.

Because of the patents Myriad Genetics holds on these genes, the company can charge whatever it wants for testing, though other labs say they could charge far less. Make no mistake about it—genetic diagnostic testing is expensive. Myriad Genetics’ BRCAAnalysis test costs approximately \$3,500, with the supplemental BRCAAnalysis Large Rearrangement Test in High Risk Patients test (or BART) costing an additional \$700. Though some health insurance companies will cover the cost (or a portion of the cost) of testing, not all companies do so. Each insurance company must negotiate with Myriad individually—and we hear stories of women, including a plaintiff in the lawsuit against Myriad, whose insurance did not have a contract for services for the test. In addition, the BART test is not always covered by insurance, even if the first test is. For women without health insurance—and according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that number is more than 17 million women between the ages of 18 and 64 –the test is simply not affordable. Uninsured and under-insured women deserve to have the same opportunity to access testing that women with insurance coverage have.

Second, only some mutations are evaluated in Myriad’s standard “Comprehensive BRCAAnalysis.” For some high-risk women, in particular women of Latin American and Hispanic ancestry, about 10% of the mutations (called large rearrangements) are missed by the standard BRCAAnalysis test. Testing for large rearrangements requires a separate test that is often not covered by insurance.

A third issue is that current testing has limitations in what it can detect. That is, the two tests combined still only look at some of the possible mutations, and there are others of unknown significance. Myriad test results can be indeterminate—one study found that as many as 10% of people tested had an indeterminate test result, a disproportionate number of whom are women of color. What are women supposed to do when the results are unclear? Should they have prophylactic surgeries? Will their insurance cover increased screenings?

A fourth critical problem with Myriad’s patents is that independent second-opinion testing is not widely available, if at all. So if someone tests negative or positive for BRCA gene mutations, how do they know this finding is accurate? For a time, Myriad reported that its method of testing resulted in a high false negative rate – as much as 12%. Before making life-altering decisions wouldn’t you want to have the option of a second opinion confirming the results? Nancy S., a Breast Cancer Action member, who tested positive for the BRCA mutations, was not offered second opinion testing by her doctor because it wasn’t an option. In fact, none of BCAction’s members have reported that they could access second opinion testing, or that they even knew it was an option. Women who are at significant hereditary risk and base important screening and other decisions on negative results, or are considering life-altering prophylactic surgeries (where organs and other body parts are removed) should be able to access second opinion testing on which to base these significant decisions. Just as women want to be able to access second opinions from doctors, it is understandable that they may want access to independent second opinion testing as well.

Women of color (including African-American and Asian-American women) are more likely than white women to receive uncertain tests results, creating many questions about which follow up steps they should take, such as: “Does an indeterminate result warrant prophylactic surgery?” and “Does it justify increased monitoring and if so, will insurance pay for it?” Runi Limary, an Asian-American woman and plaintiff in the lawsuit challenging Myriad’s patents, received ambiguous results when she had genetic testing done. Runi was told that this “variant of uncertain

significance” has been seen in Asian women, and that these ambiguous results seem to come up more for women of color.

The fifth issue is the limits on future research that may benefit women. BCAction believes that current and future research, which has the potential to save many lives, should not be limited by Myriad Genetics’ monopoly on BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 genes and testing. Last year over 230,000 women were diagnosed with invasive breast cancer. 40,000 women die of the disease each year. Up to 10% may be associated with hereditary risk, including known and as-yet-unknown BRCA mutations. We, our families, and our friends, cannot wait for better prevention, treatment, and surgery. Limits that inhibit other labs from doing tests and research that could save the lives of our mothers, sisters, friends, daughters, wives, and partners are simply not acceptable.

When women cannot access testing, when the test fails to provide conclusive evidence about a particular mutation, when the test provides an indeterminate result, when second opinion testing is not accessible, and when creativity and innovation in research is limited that could potentially save lives, we all suffer. Breast Cancer Action urges an end to gene patents so that women’s health comes first. Thank you.

genetest

From: Kim Irish <kirish@bcaction.org>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 6:10 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing and to say that I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women and men; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about research into breast cancer.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes—and your genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Irish
55 New Montgomery
San Francisco, CA 94105

genetest

From: Caitlin Carmody <caitlin.j.carmody@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 6:25 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing and to say that I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women and men; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about research into breast cancer.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Carmody
3605 20th St. #11
Street 2
San Francisco, CA 94110

genetest

From: Helen Hoch <hhoch@helenhoch.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:03 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Helen Hoch
17 Summit Road
Marblehead, MA 01945

genetest

From: Katie Councilor <kcouncilor@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:07 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katie Councilor
3457 Milwaukee Street
Madison, WI 53714

genetest

From: John Giannone, MD <jgiannonecswr@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:09 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Giannone, MD

14222

genetest

From: Robyn Stoetzel <robystetz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robyn Stoetzel
20932 Mayfair Dr
Mokena, IL 60448

genetest

From: Maria Canas <mlcanas18@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:11 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Maria L canas

Maria Canas
5400 sw 77 ct #2U
Miami, FL 33155

genetest

From: Kyliab Garver <kyliab@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:12 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kyliab Garver

64113

genetest

From: Gail Corvello <gail9194@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:14 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gail Corvello
172 Greenbrier Dr
Seekonk, MA 02878

genetest

From: Dawn Petillo <dspetillo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:15 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person with breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test was very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Petillo
1900 Patriot Way
Wall, NJ 07719

genetest

From: Ian Yaretsky <iany@ozemail.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:16 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ian Yaretsky
2/11 Glencoe Street
Caulfield North, Vic, Australia, ot 3161

genetest

From: Beth Baldino <beth@consciouswellness.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:16 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, genetic testing is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider this feedback in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Baldino

Ewing, NJ 8560

genetest

From: Shelley Dodt <sdodt@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:17 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelley Dodt
5332 sw orchid bay dr
Palm city, FL 34990

genetest

From: Kenny Vaher <Muggrat@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:17 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I strongly believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives.

I hope you will understand why patents on lifeforms, in this case particularly human genes, should not be "owned".

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kenny Vaher
219 West 24th Street
NYC, NY 10011

genetest

From: Konstadina Batzaka <nouarra@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:21 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Konstadina Batzaka
Kristalli 48
Peristeri - Athens, ot 12131

genetest

From: Alice Miller <smileyaem@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:24 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I am a person with breast cancer and because my sister who also has breast cancer my niece's physician recommended that my niece get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Alice Miller

Alice Miller
704 Ritter Dr.
Charleston, SC 29412

genetest

From: Jennifer Ennis <jennenn@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:25 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ennis
6628 Arbor Grande Way
Raleigh, NC 27615

genetest

From: Judith Nudelman <judy.nudelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:26 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a woman with breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith Nudelman
1 Sea View Ave
Riverside, RI 02915

genetest

From: Darija Mandic <dama280857@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:30 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darija Mandic

Herceg-Novi, MONTENEGRO, ot 31000

genetest

From: Darija Mandic <dama280857@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:30 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darija Mandic

Herceg-Novi, MONTENEGRO, ot 31000

genetest

From: Steve Fuchs <stevefuchs2@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:30 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Fuchs
10 Leslie Terrace
Belleville, NJ 07109

genetest

From: Marcella Kennedy <ladykennedy03@yahoo.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:35 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcella Kennedy
99 Donwoods Dr.
Toronto, ON M4N 2G7

genetest

From: Crystal Walker <sabrinawynter@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:36 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Crystal Walker

34120

genetest

From: Tricia Ross <triciaro2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:37 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Mrs. Tricia Ross

Tricia Ross
6842 W Higgins Ave 1S
Chicago, IL 60656

genetest

From: anna seitz <alonzogay2000@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:40 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

anna seitz
7485 chatham
detroit, MI 48239

genetest

From: marcy brenner <marcy@coyotemusic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:43 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I was 34 when diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997. I found the lump myself. I had a mastectomy and chemotherapy. But the cancer came back and in 2000 I had high-dose chemotherapy with a stem cell rescue at Duke University Hospital in NC. I am now 12 years out and cancer free!

After I recovered from the transplant, my two sisters, niece and I decided to get genetically tested so they could best prevent breast cancer and i could decide about prophylactic surgery removing my other breast and/or ovaries.

My insurance did not cover the test (\$2,800) and I submitted my test under a pseudonym to protect my insurance coverage because there was no guarantee I wouldn't be dropped should I have a positive BRCA test result. My oldest sister tested positive for BRCA2, my other sister and niece were negative and I tested positive for BRCA1 and BRCA2 -- very rare! So I had my other breast removed and a complete hysterectomy. My older sister had a hysterectomy also and went on Tamoxifen -- she is 60 and has never had a cancer diagnosis!

Needless to say, the testing helped me to save my life and the life of my sister. She is actually in a category called prevention, which is just wonderful.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test was very expensive -- there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marcy Brenner, Judi Coyne, Linda Locke and Christine Morgan

marcy brenner

Ocracoke, NC 27960

genetest

From: Melissa Regan <mbregan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:43 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I am at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa B. Regan

Melissa Regan
32161 Red Clover Ct
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

genetest

From: Dawn Judd <dawnjudd@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:50 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Judd
888 minnesota street
san francisco, CA 94107

genetest

From: debby keller <sage1014@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:53 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

debby keller
217 park ave
medina, NY 14103

genetest

From: Michelle NixonWelburn <boxers.nixwel@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:55 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle NixonWelburn
Sea Urchin
Bossiney Tintagel Cornwall UK
St. Gonnery France, ME PL34 0AY

genetest

From: Michael Hogan <mickalex7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:55 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Hogan
1609 Sutton Dr
raleigh, NC 27605

genetest

From: A Bonvouloir <ra3ajw@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:02 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also all who care about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

It's wrong that a corporation owns my genes and wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope that when you consider genetic diagnostic testing regulation that you put women's health before corporate profiteering.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A Bonvouloir
PO Box 70185
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

genetest

From: Bronwen Melvin <Bronwenr@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:03 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bronwen Melvin
200 Shearwater Ct W #52
Jersey City, NJ 07305

genetest

From: NANCY FORREST <WILDRAINI@HOTMAIL.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:05 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

NANCY FORREST
4803 CORAL BLVD
BRADENTON, FL 34210

genetest

From: Nathalie Graham <nathaliejgraham@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:09 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Graham
105 San Felipe Way
Novato, MA 02139

genetest

From: Joni Rubin <Jsruddog@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person with breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joni Rubin
39681 larkspur pl
davis, ca 95616
Davis, CA 95616

genetest

From: Joni Rubin <Jsruddog@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joni Rubin
39681 larkspur pl
davis, ca 95616
Davis, CA 95616

genetest

From: Keith Spurgeon <Mosbsks@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:18 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Keith Spurgeon

21701

genetest

From: Jean Conner <jeanconner@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:19 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Conner
Andrew Dr.
Canton, CT 06019

genetest

From: connie curtis <sea.note.connie@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:25 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

connie curtis
11803 knollpark dr
austin, TX 78758

genetest

From: Emma Roderick <emma.rose.roderick@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:26 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emma Roderick
21 Maple Ave
Northampton, MA 01060

genetest

From: Dawn Deevy <soundofspheres@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:34 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Deevy

12461

genetest

From: Cile Messer <cilemesser@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:34 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cile Messer
119 Arlington Row
Macon, GA 31201

genetest

From: Clara Thomas <cgt_205@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:36 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share my outrage that corporations can actually patent genes and monopolize genetic diagnostic testing. This is crazy! What's next - patents on our organs? I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider the implications involved in allowing corporations to own various parts of the human physiology through patents when drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put humanity's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Clara Thomas
2269 Eastern Blvd.
Montgomery, AL 36105

genetest

From: Kathleen Arcaro <karcaro@nre.umass.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:39 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Arcaro
19 Dudleyville Road
Leverett, MA
Leverett, MA 01054

genetest

From: Lisa Hohenemser <lisa.hohenemser@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:40 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hohenemser
8 East Schuyler Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901

genetest

From: Ronnie Moon <mtdewandal@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:44 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Moon
2453 Cashtown Rd.
Bremen, GA 30110

genetest

From: Sandra DenBraber, R.N. <skdbrn@ticnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:44 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra DenBraber, R.N.
114 Ray Street
Arlington, TX 76010

genetest

From: Kathleen Dooley <dooley@broadinstitute.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:50 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

The Human Genome Project was a publicly funded project for good reason and I stand behind that as a testament as to why no company should be holding patents on any genes related to human disease. We prevented companies at that time from patenting genes and we must prevent them now. I have a stake in this not only as a member of the team that worked on the Human Genome Project but as a Breast Cancer survivor. Letting companies own part of the genetic code is akin to letting corporations own letters in the alphabet. It is insanity and has to be stopped. They are not creating a product here, merely appropriating what belongs to each and everyone of us. These genes are just the tip of the iceberg in looking at what causes breast cancer on a genomic level (there are many other genes that are being found to play a part in BC) and to let one company proceed with a patent would be a disaster for Cancer patients everywhere.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen T. Dooley

Kathleen Dooley
215 Renfrew St
Arlington, MA 02476

genetest

From: Lauren King <reader427@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:53 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal feelings about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lauren King
306 South Orchard Street
Wallingford, CT 06492

genetest

From: Erika Mikkalo <emikkalo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:00 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erika Mikkalo
1402 N. Paulina St., #2
Chicago, IL 60622

genetest

From: Monica Jackson <antiem3@Yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:00 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Jackson
950 Temple Hills Drive
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

genetest

From: Andy Bachor <onemob@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:07 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andy Bachor

Edmonton, AB t6c4b1

genetest

From: Mary Ketry <mydogcharlie123@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:07 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test and the BART test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ketry
Gardenville on the Green
Buffalo, NY 14224

genetest

From: Margaret Christensen <margchrist@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:08 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

As an obstetrician Gynecologist , I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret Christensen
9721 Vinewood Drive
dallas, tx 75228
Dallas, TX 75205

genetest

From: Pam Heaton <pamheaton@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:11 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pam Heaton
6420 Ascot Drive
Oakland, CA 94611

genetest

From: Jennifer Symonds <jnnfrsymonds@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:11 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Symonds
Kirkley Cliff
Lowestoft (UK resident no state), ot NR33 0BY

genetest

From: Michael Lacombe <dr_mal@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:12 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have an incredibly positive impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a physician, I see patients every day who are at an increased risk for breast cancer, and I recommended that they get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics spent years of time and effort perfecting the BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene tests, the test can be expensive – however, most of my patients have insurance which covers the cost of the test. Myriad has been great to work with in patients who do not have adequate insurance.

I think it's wrong that people assume that a company is evil because they developed game-changing technology, and they are expected to give their services away for free. It's also wrong that politically motivated "action" groups try to manipulate vulnerable cancer patients by using misleading phrases like "they have control over 'my genes'". I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you understand the amazing way that the technology developed by Myriad has changed the landscape of breast cancer treatment in a positive way.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Lacombe

Vernon Hills, IL 60061

genetest

From: Kimberly Rondy <kronody@neo.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:15 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Rondy
1963 Hult Road
Mansfield, OH 44903

genetest

From: Zoey Anderson <zoey@zoey.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:16 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, I would like to get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I can not believe that anyone would consider it reasonable or ethical that a corporation owns my genes. It is absurd that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider women over the profits of one corporation in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zoey Anderson
218 Brush St Apt J
Alameda, CA 94501

genetest

From: Susan Roznoy <sooze1492@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:18 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Roznoy
11 Strong Street
Amherst, MA 01002

genetest

From: Kelly Warren <kelly_w31@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:18 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Warren
790 Valley Green Dr
Oakland, CA 94513

genetest

From: Joyce Frohn <AHengst1@new.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:22 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joyce Frohn
425 Congress
Oshkosh, WI 54901

genetest

From: Shelly Revere <shelly@reveremultimedia.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:27 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelly Revere
4608 via del pardon
Yorba linda, CA 92886

genetest

From: Molly Blakemore <molly@fairworldproject.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:29 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Molly Blakemore

AZ 86326

genetest

From: Christy Summerfield <christysummerfield@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:32 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christy Summerfield
2609 Whitewood St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

genetest

From: Virginia Gelczis <gelczis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:45 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I'm a breast cancer survivor, and my husband's mother died from breast cancer. I was able to have a BRCAAnalysis test, but insurance wouldn't pay for my husband's test. Why must it be so expensive? This is critical information that would help our children, and we can't afford to get it.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Virginia Gelczis
441 E. Washington Avenue
SUNNYVALE, CA 94086

genetest

From: Leigh Anne krook <freewams@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:46 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leigh Anne krook

SC 29650

genetest

From: julie wade <WELIWONDER@YAHOO.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:48 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

julie wade
3810 ANTIOCH CIR
CARROLLTON, TX 75007

genetest

From: H Neff <h_n33@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:48 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

H Neff
Pinehurst
Kellogg, ID 83837

genetest

From: Cecile and Jeff Bodington <cecile@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:55 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cecile and Jeff Bodington
255 Frederick St
san Francisco, CA 94117

genetest

From: Nancy Dyson <ncfdyson@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:56 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Dyson

Nancy Dyson
93 FULL CIRCLE
DAVIS, CA 95618

genetest

From: Lisa Gerick <Casaliskas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:04 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gerick
51 Woods Street
San Rafael, CA 94901

genetest

From: Susan Kilburn <skilburn@mmchs.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Kilburn
16792 Conneaut Lake Road
Meadville, PA 16335

genetest

From: Lisa Barcellos <lbarcellos@genepi.berkeley.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:21 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Barcellos

Berkeley, CA 94530

genetest

From: Beth Friedman <befriedman@ucsd.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:22 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Friedman
6190 Inspiration Way
La Jolla, CA 92037

genetest

From: Desiree Hairwassers <gogojojo01@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:27 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Desiree Hairwassers
Koperslagerstraat 2
Huissen, ot 6851CJ

genetest

From: Amanda Hitt <amandakate76@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:33 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hitt
PO Box 420
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

genetest

From: Sarah Manno <sarahhm@frii.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:37 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Manno
211 Clover
Ft. Collins, CO 80521

genetest

From: Lois Robin <lolotusi@cruzio.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:37 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lois Robin
4701 Nova Dr.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

genetest

From: Julie Cowan <jcowan@solidprint.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:38 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. As a follow up to my testing, it was recommended that my mother be tested. But she cannot afford the test. Now she is at higher risk but without the knowledge of her genetic information, to help her to make an informed decision about her health.

I think it's wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Cowan
1121 Ashland
evanston
Evanston, IL 60202

genetest

From: Adrienne Davis <adrienne_a@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:42 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Davis
1437 Hillcrest Rd.
Santa Barbara,, CA 93103

genetest

From: Heather Romaine <heatheromaine@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:47 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Romaine
379 Hale St
San Francisco, CA 94110

genetest

From: Erin Williams <Erin@ezbalance.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:48 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erin Williams
6304-156th PL NE
Redmond, WA 98052

genetest

From: Tauna Bollinger <consumed_venus@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:50 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tauna Bollinger

64086

genetest

From: Zach Stein <snoop0x7b@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:56 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

The fact is genes are things that occur in nature. By virtue of the fact that I am a living organism I have genes. I fail to see how a gene and the information within is either a business method or a process of doing something. Just as you're probably aware that you can't patent the existence of a leaf, you shouldn't be able to patent the existence of a particular gene. Where the method of actually doing something applies here is the method that gene therapy would be administered, not the gene itself. Otherwise please grant me a patent on acorns, because that's just as asinine as allowing a pharmaceutical company to patent a human gene... Every day human cells undergo mitosis and multiply with copies of that gene, are those people who have those cells infringing on that patent? No.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zach Stein

PA 19129

genetest

From: Lynne Currie <slightlyoptimistic@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:10 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne Currie
12168 Dunbar Street
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 5T6

genetest

From: Kathy Moore <kathymoore987@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:15 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Moore
P. O. Box 487
Tijeras, NM 87059

genetest

From: Jill Kramer <jillkkramer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:17 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Kramer
5013 Bellaire Ave
Valley Village, CA 91607

genetest

From: Rhonda Bunton <rbmarie.22@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:16 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Bunton

Houston, TX 78653

genetest

From: karen flores <karenflrs17@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:30 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Stop Myriad from owning the BRAC genes as they have no competition and have driven up the price of the test. Therefore, if an insurance company will not pay for it, some women who really need it might not be able to afford it and might skip this life saving test! Do not patent my genes! Do not use life saving tests to make money!

Karen Flores

karen flores
1526 juniper twig ave
lasvegas, NV 89183

genetest

From: alexa evans <alex_art1011@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:35 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

alexa evans
3730 shannon drive
fort wayne, IN 46835

genetest

From: Carol TeltschickFall <carol@wordspark.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:35 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives.

I hope you consider my concerns in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol TeltschickFall
534 Dimm St
-, CA 94805

genetest

From: Gale Wright <nanni280@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:36 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gale Wright
2011 10:59 AM PDT
El Cajon
el cajon, CA 92019

genetest

From: Mary Sreenan <marysreenan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:36 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Sreenan
1450 white oak rd
lake forest, IL 60045

genetest

From: Karen Ingebrigtsen <kareni@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:43 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for recurrence of breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Karen Ingebrigtsen

Karen Ingebrigtsen
2435 Union Street #205
San Francisco, CA 94123

genetest

From: Dana D <danadougherty@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:54 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

My mother was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer, a type of breast cancer most commonly associated with the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genetic mutation. Her physician recommended that she get the BRCAAnalysis test in order to determine the likelihood that she passed that same mutation on to me and my two sisters.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. Despite the fact that my mother has health insurance, this expensive test is not currently covered on her high deductible plan. Because the cost of cancer, even with insurance, is so high, my mother cannot afford to have the test done at this time, leaving my sisters and I completely in the dark.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dana Dougherty

Dana D

Chicago, IL 60611

genetest

From: Linda Witteck <LAWitteck@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:57 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Witteck
1610 W 12th Street
Webb City, MO 64870

genetest

From: R. Ackley <feme_feral@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 12:59 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

R. Ackley
Avalon road
Winter Garden, FL 34787

genetest

From: Alyssa Tecklenburg <artecklenburg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:00 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. If only one corporation can do research on these genes, it severely limits the potential for a breakthrough therapy. How is a monopoly beneficial to women's health? Please put women before corporate profits and consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Alyssa Tecklenburg

Alyssa Tecklenburg
1420 Alabama St
San Francisco, CA 94110

genetest

From: JT Thomas <jthomas975@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:01 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

My whole family has a history of breast cancer. I am a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. But in order to get tested my insurance will NOT pay for this test. I would like to know if I have the breast cancer gene. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

JT Thomas

19403

genetest

From: Pat Sax <patnkay2@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:04 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pat Sax
1647 trestle glen road
Oakland, CA 94610

genetest

From: Judy Pagnusat <judypag@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:06 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

No part of Healthcare should be a monopoly! This is what is driving the cost of medical care through the roof. Why should there be only one place for analysis. Going back to the same resource who did the first evaluation is not a second opinion!

If we do not have health insurance that covers everyone, most won't be able to get this test. My Doctor told me yesterday that the test would cost \$4000 and my insurance might not pay for it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy Pagnusat

Judy Pagnusat
714 W. school St.
Cotati, CA 94931

genetest

From: Kristi Kennedy <kristi.kennedy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:09 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristi Kennedy
221 Warren Drive
San Francisco, CA 94131

genetest

From: Kelley Maresca <sunshineherbals@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:13 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelley Maresca
11054 Whitehorse Rd
Truckee, CA 96161

genetest

From: carol birkenhauer <csbirkenhauer@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:25 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

carol birkenhauer
9 brightwood drive
cold spring, KY 41076

genetest

From: Holly Adams <hcadams@memorialcare.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:27 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As an Oncology Social Worker, many of my patients have been advised to get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. Many of the women I work with don't have health insurance or don't have adequate financial resources and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Holly Adams
701 E. 28th Street, Ste. 200
Long Beach, CA 90806

genetest

From: Gary Boivin <gjboivin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:28 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary Boivin
3931 West Solar Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85051

genetest

From: Whitney Vanderstel <whitney1128@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:29 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Whitney Vanderstel
Po Box 616
Kearney, MO 64060

genetest

From: Beth Elkin <boakin@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:32 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Elkin
6327 SE 19th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

genetest

From: Crystal Anderson <crys2jerry@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:36 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Crystal Anderson
224 San Felipe Way
Novato, CA 94945

genetest

From: Zoe Alexander <mauizoe@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:37 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zoe Alexander
222 Peahi Road
Haiku, HI 96708

genetest

From: Lori Smith <lasmith7@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:41 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lori Smith
83- Robinhood Drive
San Rafael, CA 94901

genetest

From: Mona Verducci <unicycle012000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:48 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person with breast cancer and a family history of pelvic cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. My insurance company did not want to pay for the tests, but I knew that the results of the tests would determine which types of surgeries and treatments would provide me with the best chances of survival. I paid a great deal of money out of pocket, and spent a great deal of time and energy in fighting with my insurance company, and never had the more extensive testing which would have further helped in determining appropriate adjuvant therapy in my situation. This was a great disservice to me, and ultimately probably led to unnecessary and expensive treatments, which had significant toxic side-effects.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mona Verducci

Mona Verducci
2011 10:59 AM PDT
57.47, US 95476

genetest

From: mary jane mullaney <maryjmullaney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:48 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

mary jane mullaney
2062 SE Palmblyad Rd
Gresham, OR 97080

genetest

From: Jan Buckwald <jbuckwald@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:50 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jan Buckwald
514 Curtis St
Albany, CA 94706

genetest

From: Jill Engelbrecht <jillie46@pacbell.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:51 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Engelbrecht
1141 Meadowcrest Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925

genetest

From: Marcie Delia <marciedelia@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:59 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcie Delia
758 Hamlet St.
Columbus, OH 43215

genetest

From: Myra Hogan <myrahogan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:03 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Myra Hogan
2711 Clark Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27607

genetest

From: Meagan Lewis <meaggy02@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:12 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meagan Lewis
5315 Savoy Ct
Apt 101
Saint Louis, MO 63112

genetest

From: Patricia Evans-Rentschler <rentschler@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:13 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Evans-Rentschler
239 S. Amherst
West Columbia, TX 77486

genetest

From: Luz Calvo <luz.calvo@csueastbay.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:15 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing.

I was diagnosed as a carrier of the BRCA2 mutation, specifically my mutation is known as 886delGT. I was outraged to find out that I can't even find out how many people have tested for 886delGT because Myriad is keeping that information private so they can make more money down the line! I want researchers to be able to investigate my specific mutation.

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luz Calvo

Luz Calvo
2932 E. 29th ST.
oakland, CA 94601

genetest

From: Marlene McCarthy <marleneribcc@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:20 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marlene McCarthy

Marlene McCarthy
716 Center of New England Blvd.
Suite 245 - Coventry, RI
Coventry, RI 02816

genetest

From: anne hannahan <anne@annehannahan.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:19 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Anne Hannahan RN MA LP

anne hannahan
1995 Bayard Ave
St Paul, MN 55116

genetest

From: Cheryl Hahne <cheri.hahne@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:25 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

The Human Genome Project was a joint effort by Government and Academia, and by men and women to help all human beings. The mapping was not to provide the location and function of the genes so a Company can patent a gene every human being has, then charge what they'd like whatever products and services they develop using those genes. The Companies can patent their products and services--but the GENES are not their proprietary information from which to develop those products and services. Whether it be BRCA 1 & 2, or 17 for HER-2-neu, the GENES existed before in humans. The Human Genome Project was not undertaken so specific genes could suddenly be considered proprietary information. The very notion is absurd; it's like patenting "human ears!"

It's a shame companies like Myriad (or Oncor, who also "discovered" BRCA 1 & 2) want to charge the thousandfold % of profit for the Test they've developed. They would realize just as much profit if they charged less per test and tested more women. And they would do more for women's breast cancer health throughout the world.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Hahne
12 Duane Street, #6
Redwood City, CA 94062

genetest

From: Marilyn Robinson <mbrobinson@pdq.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:38 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Robinson
2951 Derby St. #110
Berkeley, CA 94705

genetest

From: Sandra Blair <Sandrablairsf@cs.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:52 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

After having two primary breast cancers, I was advised that I might have this mutated gene. However, due to the false negatives and positives without retesting or a second opinion after this very expensive test, I decided to have my ovaries removed without having this expensive test.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra Blair
1815 Chestnut
Berkeley, CA 94702

genetest

From: Carol Sontag <carolsontag@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:05 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Sontag
280 Golden Oak Dr.
Portola Valley, CA 94028

genetest

From: Heather Smith <hdsmith66@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:08 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Smith

94901

genetest

From: tao Levine <tao__el@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:21 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

tao Levine

HI 96778

genetest

From: Sheila Namir <snamir@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:28 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Namir
622 Escalona Dr.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

genetest

From: Shawn Lewis <shawn.lewis@navy.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:29 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about women's health.

As a person at increased risk for breast and uterine cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – and is not covered by my medical insurance, so I could not afford the test.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shawn Lewis
1904 S Weimer Rd
Bloomington, IN 47403

genetest

From: phyllis sturm <sturm@newpaltz.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:30 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

phyllis sturm
72 sunnybk cir
Highland, NY 12528

genetest

From: Jennifer Faubert <oneheartstore@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:32 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Faubert
1236 Brookview
Crestone, CO 81131

genetest

From: Nancy Hoffman <metaonetwo@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:36 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hoffman
3845 34th Ave West
Seattle, WA 98199

genetest

From: Ashley Coburn, PhD <iamsam37@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 3:52 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Coburn, PhD
816 - 54th Street
Oakland, CA 94608

genetest

From: Stephanie Sponsel <ssponsel@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:00 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Sponsel
12723 Capitol Plaza
Omaha, NE 68154

genetest

From: Michelle Stewardson <michellestewardson@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:08 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Stewardson
2180 Mendocino Dr
Bay Point, CA 94565

genetest

From: Stephanie Perdew <stephperdew@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:12 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Perdew
515 Oak Bay Drive
Osprey, FL 34229

genetest

From: Jill Charles <devweb@nnms.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:17 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

No company should have ownership of the bodies (or genes) of living human citizens of our country.

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Charles
1509 W 75th St
Seattle, WA 98117

genetest

From: Eilelen Fullenwider <efullenwider595@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:18 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eilelen Fullenwider
8401 S. Kolb Rd.
#231
Tucson, AZ 85756

genetest

From: Kelly Peterson <Kelly_Peterson@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:26 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. My daughter has a genetic condition, NF1, and we have recently confirmed that via genetic testing through the University of Alabama. While I appreciate the hard work, time, money, and energy put into understanding these tests and decoding these genes, and I do fully support the patenting of intellectual property, one cannot, in good conscience, or with sound reasoning, patent a gene itself. To patent something, you must be the creator of it, and as helpful as the information Myriad is putting out there is, they are only decoding, not creating the gene.

Allowing this patent to go through will also have very seriously damaging repercussions within many areas of science. Back to my personal example, of NF1 (Neurofibromatosis type 1), there are over 500 mutations on the 17th chromosome that cause this progressive, disfiguring, painful, and sometimes life-threatening condition. As there is currently neither treatment nor cure for NF, we are urgently dependant on the great and collaborative strides of researchers across the world who are trying to better understand this disorder. If, for example, someone finds a way to code for the protein that is lacking (neurofibromin) for patients with NF, I am all for them being able to patent that information and I will happily pay a premium for getting neurofibromin to my daughter. This would be similar to one patenting insulin, for example. However, to patent the gene itself, or the gene variables, simply because someone has found it -- and consequently, to have the right to keep that information from other doctors and scientists who are racing against the clock to find a cure for their patients -- is not only immoral, exploitative, and predatory, but it flies in the face of the current medical precedents regarding the study of a myriad of life-threatening diseases. Accepting this attempt to patent genes themselves would be the first step to impeding scientific access to problem-solve. None of us, not someone with BRAC-1 or 2, or someone like myself who is fighting a completely different genetic disorder, benefit from that.

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive -- there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Peterson
17221 Palisades Circle
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

genetest

From: Kristy Mitchell <harukahoneyh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:40 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristy Mitchell

Stephenville, TX 76401

genetest

From: Dennis O'Keefe <dennis.g.okeefe@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 4:49 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis O'Keefe
317 Fairview Avenue
Dunellen, NJ 08812

genetest

From: Rosemarie Chaney <rachaney@cinci.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:04 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemarie Chaney
872 Carpenter Rd
Loveland, OH, OH 45140

genetest

From: Marlene Chamberlin <marlenechamberlin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:06 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marlene Chamberlin
PO Box 413
Ft. Collins, CO 80521

genetest

From: Laurie Fisher <laurie.fisher@channing.harvard.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:09 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health. These patents have greatly limited research into breast cancer treatment and prevention.

Instead of promoting research to save women's lives, Myriad chose instead to market fear to promote its BRCAAnalysis test to make money off the BRCA patents. However, the goal of corporations is to make money, not save lives. This is the fundamental reason why no corporation should own a patent on a gene. Corporations simply are unable to put human interests ahead of profits.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,
Laurie Fisher

Laurie Fisher
181 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

genetest

From: Carol Price <sunzone8888@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:20 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Price
P.O. Box 510553
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

genetest

From: Pat Goltz <pgoltz@seghea.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:22 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health, etc.

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I think it's wrong that a corporation "owns" my genes. In fact, GOD is the patent owner for ALL human genes, and by granting a patent to anyone else, you are violating His patent rights. You need to stop.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pat Goltz

AZ 85740

genetest

From: Janet O'Hare <JanetOwl@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:25 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet O'Hare
37-60 85th Street
-, NY 11372

genetest

From: Debrah Roemisch <debjsd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:32 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debrah Roemisch

46807

genetest

From: angela fazzari <angie951@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:47 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

angela fazzari

portland, OR 97213

genetest

From: Marlene Chamberlin <marlenechamberlin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:50 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marlene Chamberlin
PO Box 413
Ft. Collins, CO 80521

genetest

From: Lori Rillera <slangirl@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:54 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lori Rillera
1398 18th Avenue
Apt. A
san francisco, CA 94122

genetest

From: Gale Lurie <galeluriepottory@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:55 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gale Lurie
3526 ne 92 st.
seattle, wa 98115

genetest

From: Emily Bender <emily@nutritionforthewholefamily.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:11 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Bender
28 Porteous Ave
Fairfax, CA 94930

genetest

From: Theresa Vaccaro <terry111362@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:13 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Theresa Vaccaro
260 Corbett Place
N. Plainfield, NJ 7060

genetest

From: Patricia Boud <LymeBabe4864@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:17 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Boud
66 Martin Dr.
WHITING, NJ 08759

genetest

From: Jennifer Lee <jylee123@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:17 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lee
1949 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

genetest

From: Elizabeth Plapinger <elizplap@optonline.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:20 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my deep concerns about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Plapinger

Elizabeth Plapinger
910 Bloomfield St.
Hoboken, NJ 07030

genetest

From: Noelani Bouchard <volcanoe@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:23 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Noelani Bouchard
P.O. Box 9
Pahoa, HI 96778

genetest

From: Gail Kern <kerngm@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:27 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research. My main concern with this testing is that if they found that you will have cancer down the road with this test, your chances of getting health insurance in the future is non-existent

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gail Kern
135 Trail Creek Road
Pocatello, ID 83204

genetest

From: Nadine Kramer <starmoon@mchsi.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:29 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Nadine Kramer

Nadine Kramer
824 2nd St. NW
Waseca, MN 56093

genetest

From: Michele Andrew <micheleparkandrew@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:36 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Andrew
1830 Glenn Place
Lafayette, CA 95616

genetest

From: Coral Turner <Coralturner@shaw.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 6:38 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Coral Turner
73stratford place sw
Calgary, AB T3h1h7

genetest

From: Tim Monaco <timmonaco@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:23 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Monaco
61040 Snowberry Place
Bend, OR 97702

genetest

From: Mark Salamon <marksalamon@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:56 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Salamon
851 Viewridge Drive
San Mateo, CA 94403

genetest

From: Lisa Valentine <dlvalentine@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:59 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

After my own breast cancer diagnosis, I had the genetic testing done. Fortunately, my insurance covered the cost. But because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. End Myriad's monopoly so research can move forward and possibly more mutations can be identified and more women provided vital information that will help with difficult decisions.

In drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, please put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Valentine
2100 Westview Drive
Hastings, MN 55033

genetest

From: Meagan Parsons <pandacake@lavabit.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:09 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a nurse, I care about health. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my concerns in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Meagan Parsons
#26-2141 Rae St.
Regina, SK S4T2E8

genetest

From: Joyce Perkit <jperkit@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:16 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I hope you consider my experience in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing.

I am grateful for the BRACA gene tests that Myriad developed. I had the tests myself because I have breast cancer and I have Ashkenazic Jewish ancestry.

I did not have the BRACA gene. If I did I would want my daughter to have access to testing, so that she would know if she had the gene and a choice to take steps that would decrease her future likelihood of dying from aggressive breast cancer. If I had the BRACA gene I would also want my two young granddaughters to have knowledge and choices when they reach an appropriate age.

The steps that women with BRACA genes can choose to take are terrible options: removing their breasts and ovaries.

Myriad's control has limited and negatively effected the current and future scientific research that could discover other, less drastic ways to save the lives of women with the BRACA gene without leaving them mutilated and barren. Myriad should not own these genes.

The exclusivity and control that results from allowing gene patenting and ownership by Myriad or any other company will have a cumulative impact that will unduly obstruct and delay the advance of medicine and scientific research in general.

In the case of Myriad and the BRACA test patent ownership of genes has created serious inequities for women's health. Because Myriad Genetics has been allowed to own the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. Many women, including my daughter, don't have the very good health insurance I had. Many women cannot access testing which means they lack important information about their breast cancer or their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I hope you will find a way to regulate use of such existing biologics that encourages and rewards the initial scientific work without encumbering and discouraging related and necessary medical and scientific advances or setting up conditions that lead to inequitable charges that limit access and use.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Joyce Perkit

Joyce Perkit
79 Brookley Rd. #2

Jamaica Plain
MA, MA 02130

genetest

From: Lil Lindsey <Lily9Lou@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:21 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

Women's health comes first. I care about breast cancer research and no one should own or control current or future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lil Lindsey
8841 Hawthorne Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

genetest

From: Amelia Bushart <jpb55aeb61@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:34 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Amelia Bushart
15135 SW Division St
-, OR 97007

genetest

From: Tara Kamath <tarakamath@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:52 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, it is recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. As a low-to-moderate income self-employed woman, I have "catastrophic" insurance. I know that many women don't have any health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

It is ethically appalling and morally wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider these convictions, held by me and millions of women, in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tara Kamath
1959 Cloverfield Blvd., #118
Santa Monica, CA 90404

genetest

From: Johanna Epps <jepps@cruzio.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:56 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Johanna Epps
112 Limestone Lane
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

genetest

From: adrian hodgson <cambrai@rogers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:22 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I think it's wrong that a corporation can, could or does owns the genes of anyone, any animal or any living thing(bacteria, micro-organism, virus, parasite, etc...). It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you take this into serious consideration when drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

adrian hodgson
11 cushendun rd.
toronto, ON m1e2b4

genetest

From: Greg Sells <gsells@austin.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:34 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to tell the story many women are sharing about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

The BRACAnalysis test has been recommended for many women with increased risk of breast cancer. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greg Sells

Austin, TX 78741

genetest

From: emily becker <jiveviolet@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:44 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

emily becker
26 hancock st
2011 10:47 AM PDT, CA 94618

genetest

From: Charlene Clark <ccneedle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:08 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Clark
7911 E. Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21224

genetest

From: Charlene Clark <ccneedle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:10 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person with breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive (over \$3000) – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Clark
7911 E. Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21224

genetest

From: joseph mundaca <joehealth7@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:21 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

joseph mundaca
17703 e. chicory cir
parker, CO 80134

genetest

From: Jacky Addeman <jaddeman@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:31 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacky Addeman
43798 Cedar Hedge St
South Riding, VA 20152

genetest

From: Emily Hardy <hardy_emily@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:39 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emily Hardy
3950 B Colorado Ave
Boulder, CO 80303

genetest

From: Robyn.n.Levine@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:35 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

NC 27517

genetest

From: Mara Langer <mara@L4Sinc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 12:56 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing you today to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Growing up I knew I had a strong chance of being diagnosed with breast cancer. My mother was diagnosed three times over the course of six long years, before she lost her fight with breast cancer at the age of 42. My maternal grand mother and her sister both died from breast cancer, too young. We are of Ashkenazi Jewish decent, making my generation that much more at risk. I lived my life to the fullest, got married and had a child and tried my best to breast feed. When I finally said enough, I went in for my annual mammogram, I was 36. Luckily, I had been getting annual mammograms since I was 30. And there it was staring back at us; DCIS. Because I did not want to risk any further opportunities for cancer to impact our lives, I had a bi-lateral mastectomy with immediate reconstruction. Yes, we agreed to genetic testing...and NO I am not BRCA1 or BRCA2 positive. YES this is surprising to everyone. And even more surprising was the small 8mm tumor I found in my left breast two years to the date after my original diagnosis. Oh, and did I happen to mention I was 12 weeks pregnant at the time. So why have I been given the lucky lottery card of breast cancer? What can I tell my daughter in 10 years when she has the choice to be genetically test? How much further will we be with the knowledge of what causes breast cancer? Will there be a vaccine? Will there be a cure? I hope so!!!

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. Sadly, I know too many women who don't have health insurance and can't access testing, this limits the information they have about their (and their off-springs) personal risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women and men, control over the ability for women and men to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put my family's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mara Langer

Mara Langer
3702 Casanova Drive
San Mateo, CA 94403

genetest

From: Gabriela Orantes <gabrielaorantes@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 1:09 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Orantes
719 Mahiai St
Honolulu, HI 96826

genetest

From: Michael W Evans <mikerain@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 2:43 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael W Evans
3731 S Sepulveda Blvd
Apt 1
Los Angeles, CA 90034

genetest

From: Heather Hall <elfinragdoll@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 2:47 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Hall
20313 14th Ave NE
SHORELINE, WA 98155

genetest

From: Kristi Bart <katjlb4@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 6:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation could own my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristi Bart
81 Fairview Ave.
West Springfield, MA 01089

genetest

From: Mary Beth Gibson <esourcecoach@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 6:37 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, I asked my physician about the BRCA test, and he informed that it was very expensive and completely discouraged me from getting the test. Well I did end up with breast cancer, and that is when insurance covered the cost. My test results showed a mutation of unknown significance. Had the test been affordable, I know I would have met with a genetic counselor, understood my risk, and been more proactive about managing my risk of getting breast cancer.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer. Even if they do have insurance, as I did, insurance companies usually don't pay for it until AFTER the diagnosis. Go figure.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Gibson
Diagnosed at 41 with Stage 2B breast cancer

Mary Beth Gibson
1311 Jamestown Road
Suite 202
Williamsburg, VA 23185

genetest

From: Susan Gianni <sgjanni@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:36 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Gianni
7 Ridgmont Close
Oxford, UK, OX2 7PJ

genetest

From: Paul Rappaport <paulrappaport@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:35 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Rappaport
1124 Knott Street SE
San Jose, CA 30316

genetest

From: laura zielinski <colorful001@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:56 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

laura zielinski
1112 e 10760 s
sandy, UT 84094

genetest

From: Heather Dougherty <hdough@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:11 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

My mother was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer last May at age 52 and it was recommended that she get the BRCAAnalysis test. If positive, it would have changed her treatment and my sisters and I would be able to get the test also to determine if we shared a genetic mutation. The cost was too high for my mother, who has health insurance, to feel comfortable getting the test, so she did not.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I pay special attention to my breast health. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Dougherty

MI 48067

genetest

From: Altha Cravey <altha.cravey@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:13 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Altha Cravey
101 W. Carr St
Carrboro, NC 27510

genetest

From: candace frates <candacegfrates@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:15 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

candace frates
3015 E 95th street
tulsa, OK 74137

genetest

From: Lois Bendix <lois.bendix@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:37 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lois Bendix
404 Reynolds St
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

genetest

From: Elizabeth Doreen <maudeversace@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 1:38 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Doreen
1162 SE Roundelay St
Hillsboro, OR 97123

genetest

From: Joan Kelley <joank7@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 1:53 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Kelley
371 Kelley Lane
Killen, TX 76542

genetest

From: Arlene Echols <AEchols1979@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 2:13 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I'm writing to tell how gene patenting has affected me. My doctor recommended that I get the BRCA breast cancer test because of my increased risk of reoccurrence of breast cancer. Although I have insurance from my employer, a major airline, the \$3,800 cost of the test was not going to be covered because of a contractual exclusion in my coverage. This means that no amount of medical documentation will get the insurance to cover the fee. I could not afford the \$3,800, so I put off having the test done for 2 years, thereby increasing my chances of developing a number of cancers. Because Myriad holds the patent, there is no competition to bring down the price of a simple blood test.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Arlene Echols

Arlene Echols
11329 S Saint Lawrence Ave
Chicago, IL 60628

genetest

From: Kerri Geary <kerrijgeary@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 2:33 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. This test cost me over \$3000 dollars!!! My health insurance did not cover it but my doctor wanted me to get it. I regret that decision now. I also know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I also was not able to get the tests confirmed by getting another opinion. I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kerri Geary
1001 Camelot Circle
Fort Collins, CO 80525

genetest

From: Lora Silver <lorasilver@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:16 PM
To: genetest
Subject: I don't want gene patents to interrupt women's health care

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing because I want you to stop giving priority to the companies that own the patents, and to start putting women's health first. You will get our full support and respect when you denounce Myriad's patents and put the power of genetic testing back into the hands of our communities, the individuals and families who face life-altering risks, not the corporations.

I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lora Silver
78 Fairmount Ave
#304
Oakland, CA 94611

genetest

From: Lora Silver <lorasilver@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:16 PM
To: genetest
Subject: I don't want gene patents to interrupt women's health care

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing because I want you to stop giving priority to the companies that own the patents, and to start putting women's health first. You will get our full support and respect when you denounce Myriad's patents and put the power of genetic testing back into the hands of our communities, the individuals and families who face life-altering risks, not the corporations.

I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lora Silver
78 Fairmount Ave
#304
Oakland, CA 94611

genetest

From: wendy radcliffe <wrad56@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:59 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my feelings about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my feelings in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Wendy Radcliffe

wendy radcliffe
1515 fairton rd
millville, NJ 08332

genetest

From: Penelope Cooper-Kelley <penel@cooper-kelley.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 4:28 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Penelope Cooper-Kelley
3108 Calle Mariposa
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

genetest

From: Charlotte Bohn <cbohn53@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 4:35 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Bohn
4521 Perch Lane
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

genetest

From: MARY STUEHLER <mcstuehler@embarqmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:41 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my opinion about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my opinion in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MARY STUEHLER
6 Manor Dr
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

genetest

From: Michele Jamison <jstudios@gte.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:19 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Jamison
333 W. Cabrillo
Palm Springs, CA 92262

genetest

From: michelle rowe <michelle213akron@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10:16 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

michelle rowe

OH 44314

genetest

From: Carol Maghakian <carol.maghakian@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:12 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Maghakian
6457 Sweet Gum Trail
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

genetest

From: Dalena Pham <dalena.h.pham@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:43 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dalena Pham
306 21st Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

genetest

From: Marpessa Hennink <marpimarp@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 5:10 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marpessa Hennink

Ibiza, ot 07800

genetest

From: Kimberly Ruffalo <karuffalo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 9:12 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Ruffalo
809 Elmwood Street
Orange Park, FL 32065

genetest

From: Paula ` Helzer <pmhelzer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 10:05 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I am a breast cancer survivor. In August of 2010, one month after my yearly mammogram, I found a small thickening in my right breast. I was diagnosed with invasive ductal carcinoma, and chose to have a right mastectomy. My oncologist recommended that I get the BRCA analysis test. My health insurance did not pay for the BRCA testing. But it did pay for a prophylactic mastectomy. So I had a left mastectomy. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive and I had to make a hard choice. There is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance or it doesn't pay for it. So they can not access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer. I have since changed jobs and health insurance. My new insurance paid for the BRCA testing. And I got it. The fear and stress and anxiety of not knowing if your BRCA positive or not is overwhelming, and if you have a daughter (like I do) it's even worse. Please help us women have access to BRCA testing. Not only do we need to cure breast cancer, we have to find a way to prevent breast.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Paula Helzer

Paula ` Helzer
PO Box 23
Barnard, MO 64423

genetest

From: Stephanie Dillemoth <sdillemu@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 10:11 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

I am a young person who was diagnosed with breast cancer last year. My physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I had to pay \$500 out of pocket for one test and could not afford the second \$3,000.00 dollar test, not covered by insurance. Because there is only one company that can do this test, there is no way to go for a second opinion, which I consider a crucial part of the whole battling-breast-cancer process. It is a costly, scary, and sensitive disease, and I wanted to be sure I was armed with the best information at every turn. I did not have this option with regard to genetic testing.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Dillemoth

Stephanie Dillemoth
19664 Framingham Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

genetest

From: Cathie Ragovin <ragpol@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:41 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my thoughts about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer. The fact that the research to find the genes was funded in good part by taxpayer money from NIH makes the 'ownership' of the genes by Myriad particularly upsetting.

It's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cathie Ragovin
185 Newton Street
Weston, Ma
Weston, MA 02493

genetest

From: Joan Wharton <Rosewind3@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 4:19 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan Wharton

TX 75248

genetest

From: Aileen Geraghty <aileen.healingharmony@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 1:36 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

I am afraid to get the test ~ because of what may be controlled long term. My doctor wants me to ~ I also don't know if my health insurances will cover it. It should be illegal to patent genomes, things people can't control ~ by patenting, others have control and domination over our bodies. The potential long term ramifications are frightening to say the least! The policy of patenting genes, whether human, animal, plant, should be stopped IMMEDIATELY.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aileen Geraghty

MD 21220

genetest

From: Karen Haas <karenhaas54@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 10:14 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Haas
1007 W. College Ave. #517
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

genetest

From: Deborah J. Golder <evan.deborah@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 5:03 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Golder
19000 Lake Road, #319
Apt 319
Rocky River, OH 44116

genetest

From: Rosanna Ferrera <rosannaferrera@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 6:45 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosanna Ferrera
2505 Spring Hill Rd.
Petaluma, CA 94952

genetest

From: Mary Lynn Donovan <mlfdonovan@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 9:35 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRACAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mary Lynn Faunda Donovan
St. Louis Missouri

Mary Lynn Donovan
17 Manderleigh Estates
St. Louis, MO 63131

genetest

From: Deana Mueller <deana.mueller@ymail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 2:15 AM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person with a sister who has breast cancer due to the BRCA1 genetic mutation, my sister's oncologist recommended that I get the BRCA1 test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer. I was fortunate in that my health insurance company covered most of the cost.

I think it is wrong that a corporation owns my genes. What is next? Some company owning my blood? Another company owning my brain?

It is also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women. I have another sister with the BRCA1 genetic mutation, who is considering prophylactic surgeries. Before making such a crucial decision, she should have the right to testing by another laboratory to confirm the existence of BRCA1. I did not realize Myriad had such control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care.

I also did not realize they have control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I did donate to research the remainder of my DNA taken for my test in hopes that it would help the BRCA cause. In light of this information, I am questioning that decision, in that I do not trust the system now.

I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deana Mueller

80537

genetest

From: Muriel Hykes <drmom5@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 12:59 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. I hope you consider my opinion in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Muriel Hykes

Muriel Hykes

Cogan Station, PA 17728

genetest

From: Gerilyn Brewer <Gerilyn.brewer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:21 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gerilyn Brewer
136 mountain Ave
New Rochelle, NY 10804

genetest

From: Kristin Riggs <kriggs@mindspring.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:15 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kristin Riggs
1380 48th St
Sacramento, CA 95819

genetest

From: Gaye Walden <gayewalden@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 1:01 PM
To: genetest
Subject: Impact of Gene Patents on Women's Health

Dear U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Staff:

I am writing to share with you my personal story about genetic diagnostic testing. I believe that Myriad's patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes have a negative impact on women's health; not only those who are known or suspected to have a BRCA mutation, but also anyone who cares about breast cancer research.

As a person at increased risk for breast cancer, my physician recommended that I get the BRCAAnalysis test. Because Myriad Genetics owns the patents on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, the test is very expensive – there is no outside competition that would drive the price of the test down to make it more affordable. I know that many women don't have health insurance and can't access testing, which limits the information they have about their actual risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

I think it's wrong that a corporation owns my genes. It's also wrong that a corporation has so much control over the genetic diagnostic testing options available for women, control over the ability for women to access second opinion testing when they receive indeterminate results or before making important decisions about medical care, and control over current and future scientific research that has the potential to save people's lives. I hope you consider my story in drafting your report for Congress on genetic diagnostic testing, and that you put women's health first.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gaye Walden
8502 Lorraine Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270