

# Million Women Study

<https://neurodegenerationresearch.eu/survey/million-women-study/>

## Title of the cohort

Million Women Study

## Acronym for cohort

MWS

## Name of Principal Investigator

Title Professor

First name Valerie

Last name Beral

## Address of institution where award is held

Institution Cancer Epidemiology Unit, University of Oxford

Street Address Richard Doll Building, Roosevelt Drive

City Oxford

Postcode OX3 7LF

## Country

United Kingdom

## Website

[www.millionwomenstudy.org](http://www.millionwomenstudy.org)

## Contact email

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## Funding source

Cancer Research UK

Medical Research Council

Health and Safety Executive

## 1. The cohort includes, or expects to include, incidence of the following conditions

- Alzheimer's disease and other dementias
- Motor neurone diseases
- Parkinson's disease

## When studies on the above condition(s) are expected to become possible

2011 – 2015

## 2a. Stated aim of the cohort

To study hormonal, reproductive and other factors affecting women's health from middle age onwards

## **2b. Features distinguishing this cohort from other population cohorts**

Large size Complete follow-up through linkage to NHS records for deaths, cancer registrations and hospital admissions Detailed demographic and lifestyle information Blood samples available for several thousand women

### **3a. i) Number of publications that involve use of cohort to date**

58

### **3a. ii) Up to three examples of studies to date (PI, Institution, Title of Study)**

### **3b. Publication list/link to where data or publications are accessible (if available)**

Study website

## **3c. Information (i.e. research findings) expected to be gained from the population cohort**

### **4a. Study criteria: age range of participants at recruitment**

Age in years from: 50-64

To ('until death' if applicable): until death

### **4b. Study criteria: inclusion criteria**

All women invited for NHS breast screening appointment during recruitment phase were invited to take part; those who attended screening and completed the study questionnaire were included

### **4c. Study criteria: exclusion criteria**

see above

## **5. Size of the cohort (i.e. number of participants enrolled)**

More than 15,000

## **6a. Measures used to characterise participants**

Very wide range: details on website

Age at recruitment and date of birth

Region

Townsend deprivation index

Smoking, alcohol

Medication

Height, weight, waist, hip; derived BMI

Physical activity

Diet

Reproductive factors including detailed use of hormone replacement therapy

Medical history Family history

Genetic factors for subset of cohort

**6b. Additional measures for participants with a clinical disorder**

No

**6c. Are there defined primary and secondary endpoints (e.g. defined health parameters)**

Breast cancer incidence and mortality were the primary endpoints for the study, but other cancer and non-cancer endpoints have always been included

**7. Study design**

Prospective cohort

**8. Cases matched by**

- Other health assessment (specify) / N/A
- not matched

**9a. Does the study include a specialised subset of control participants**

No

**9b. If yes, description of specialised subset of control participants**

**10a. i) Data collection start date**

01-01-1996

**10a. ii) Data collection end date**

**10a. iii) Data collection for this study is**

- Data collection ongoing
- Data analysis ongoing
- Closed to new patients

**10b. Plans to continue the cohort study beyond the current projected end date**

- Yes – intend to apply for funding

**11. Data collected**

- Through links to medical records

**12. System in place to enable re-contact with patients for future studies**

Yes (participants have given permission to be re-contacted via the PIs to ask if they would participate in further studies)

**13a. Format and availability of data stored in a database**

Yes/No % available

Data summarised in database yes

Database is web-based  
Database on spreadsheet  
Database is on paper  
Other (specify)

**Language used:**

**13b. Format and availability of data held as individual records**

Yes/No % available

Data held as individual records Yes

Data is web-based

Data held on computer based records Yes

Data held on cards

Other (specify)

**Language used:**

**14a. Are data available to other groups**

Yes

**14b. Access policy/mechanisms for access if data are available to other groups**

- Apply to PI or co-ordinator at resource
- Access through collaboration with PI only

**15. Data sharing policy specified as a condition of use**

Data made publicly available after a specified time point

**16a. Are tissues/samples/DNA available to other groups**

Yes

**16b. i) Description of available tissues/samples/DNA**

- Living donors: blood

**16b. ii) Form available tissues/samples/DNA are supplied in**

- Secondary samples: derivatives of primary samples

**16b. iii) Is the access policy/mechanism for obtaining samples the same as that for obtaining data**

Yes

**17. Is information on biological characteristics available to other groups**

- No