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# 42 U.S. Code § 285a-12

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## Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee

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### **(a) Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee**

#### **(1) Establishment**

Not later than 6 months after October 8, 2008, the Secretary shall establish a committee, to be known as the Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

#### **(2) Duties**

The Committee shall—

(A) share and coordinate information on existing research activities, and make recommendations to the National Institutes of Health and other Federal agencies regarding how to improve existing research programs, that are related to breast cancer research;

(B) develop a comprehensive strategy and advise the National Institutes of Health and other Federal agencies in the solicitation of proposals for collaborative, multidisciplinary research, including proposals to evaluate environmental and genomic factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer that would—

(i) result in innovative approaches to study emerging scientific opportunities or eliminate knowledge gaps in research to improve the research portfolio;

(ii) outline key research questions, methodologies, and knowledge gaps;

(iii) expand the number of research proposals that involve collaboration between 2 or more national research institutes or national centers, including proposals for Common Fund research described in section 282(b)(7) of this title to improve the research portfolio; and

(iv) expand the number of collaborative, multidisciplinary, and multi-institutional research grants;

(C) develop a summary of advances in breast cancer research supported or conducted by Federal agencies relevant to the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancer and other diseases and disorders; and

(D) not later than 2 years after the date of the establishment of the Committee, make recommendations to the Secretary—

(i) regarding any appropriate changes to research activities, including recommendations to improve the research portfolio of the National Institutes of Health to ensure that scientifically-based strategic planning is implemented in support of research priorities that impact breast cancer research activities;

(ii) to ensure that the activities of the National Institutes of Health and other Federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, are free of unnecessary duplication of effort;

(iii) regarding public participation in decisions relating to breast cancer research to increase the

involvement of patient advocacy and community organizations representing a broad geographical area;  
(iv) on how best to disseminate information on breast cancer research progress; and  
(v) on how to expand partnerships between public entities, including Federal agencies, and private entities to expand collaborative, cross-cutting research.

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