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### **Institute of Medicine to Release Report on Breast Cancer and the Environment**

SAN ANTONIO — Although women have little or no control over some of the risk factors for breast cancer, such as those related to aging and genetics, they may be able to reduce their chances for developing the disease by avoiding certain environmental risks.

“Breast Cancer and the Environment: A Life Course Approach,” a new report from the Institute of Medicine, assesses the breast cancer risk posed by various environmental factors, identifies actions that offer potential to reduce women’s risk for the disease and recommends targets for future research.

The report, sponsored by Susan G. Komen for the Cure, will be released during a press briefing and presented at a plenary session at the 2011 CTRC-AACR San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS), held Dec. 6-10, 2011.

The press briefing will be held **Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 12:30 p.m. CT (1:30 p.m. ET) in Room 217D of the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center.**

Reporters who cannot attend in person can call in using the following information:

- U.S./Canada (Toll Free): 1 (888) 647-7462
- International (Toll): 1 (201) 604-0169

Irva Hertz-Picciotto, Ph.D., professor and chief in the division of environmental and occupational health at the University of California, Davis, will moderate the press briefing, which will include the following panelists:

- David Eaton, Ph.D., associate vice provost for research and professor and director at the Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health at the University of Washington, Seattle;

- Robert A. Hiatt, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chair in the department of epidemiology and biostatistics and director of population sciences at Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of California, San Francisco; and
- Cheryl Lyn Walker, Ph.D., Welch professor and director at the Institute of Biosciences and Technology at Texas A&M Health Science Center, College Station.

Advance copies of the report will be available to reporters only beginning at 10 a.m. CT (11 a.m. ET) on Tuesday, Dec. 6. THE REPORT IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 12:30 P.M. CT (1:30 P.M. ET) on WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7. Reporters can obtain a copy and arrange interviews with members of the authoring committee by contacting Christine Stencel, senior media relations officer at the National Academies' Office of News and Public Information, at (202) 680-9353 (mobile), (202) 334-2138 (main), or by email at [cstencel@nas.edu](mailto:cstencel@nas.edu).

More information on the study is available at <http://www.iom.edu/BreastCancerEnvironment>.

The report will be discussed at an SABCS plenary session on Dec. 7, 2011, beginning at 1:45 p.m. CT, in Exhibit Hall D of the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center.

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The mission of the CTRC-AACR San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium is to produce a unique and comprehensive scientific meeting that encompasses the full spectrum of breast cancer research, facilitating the rapid translation of new knowledge into better care for patients with breast cancer. The Cancer Therapy & Research Center (CTRC) at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and Baylor College of Medicine are joint sponsors of the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. This collaboration utilizes the clinical strengths of the CTRC and Baylor and the AACR's scientific prestige in basic, translational and clinical cancer research to expedite the delivery of the latest scientific advances to the clinic. The 34th annual symposium is expected to draw nearly 8,000 participants from more than 90 countries.