OBJECTIVES
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Specific objectives of the present study were to:

- Identify the frequencies and patterns of germline mutations of $BRCA2$ gene in breast/ovarian cancer patients from hereditary breast/ovarian cancer families in Kerala.

- Identify specific founder mutations of $BRCA2$ gene, if any, unique to hereditary breast/ovarian cancer families in Kerala population.

- Identify the prevalence of germline $BRCA2$ gene mutations, if any, among early age at onset sporadic breast cancer patients.

- Correlate the mutation status with the disease phenotype and elucidate whether the genotype-phenotype correlation data generated, could be utilized to establish a guideline for susceptibility to specific disease phenotype in hereditary breast/ovarian cancer syndrome.

- Investigate the association between $BRCA2$ gene mutation and non genetic modifiers.

- Determine whether any specific mutation(s) of $BRCA2$ gene is / are associated with highly distinctive pathology phenotype like tumour size, axillary nodal status, histology, contralateral breast cancer, steroid hormone receptor status and tumour stage.

- Determine the overall survival in relation to several clinical and pathologic characteristics in familial Breast cancer patients with and without $BRCA2$ mutations.