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**Test Subject: MCF-7 & MDA-MB-231**

Since dietary studies suggest that soy can possibly be effective in preventing prostate cancer, we wanted to see if it is also effective in preventing breast cancer. We used two types of breast cancer cells: MCF-7 and MDA-MB-231. Both human cell lines were obtained from human breast tumors. They are frequently used in labs and experiments as models for estrogen responsive and non-responsive breast cancer; this is because MCF-7 is ER-positive, which means that they have estrogen receptors, and MDA-MB-231 is ER-negative, and don’t have estrogen receptors. Therefore, since the soy and isoflavones are causing an effect exclusively through the ER, they should produce an effect in MCF-7 cells, but not in MDA-MB-231. Also, since these cell lines have not been observed to mutate, they are consistent models for experimentation.

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