

## April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Update on the Four Sisters on the ExCel research study



Clockwise from left: Ruth, Dorothy, Maryanne and Vi updating their family scrapbooks

Dorothy, Vi, Maryanne and Ruth decided as a group to go on the ExCel research study together. “It fit what I wanted to do with this age of my life, to do something significant about a big problem in our society as women”, explained Dorothy.

Maryanne said the initial appeal was the good medical care she would be getting and she thinks of herself as a ‘preventer’. “I didn’t have any daughters. But I have three daughters-in-law and two granddaughters so it’s pretty neat to think that I can take this drug and perhaps it can make a difference in preventing cancer for them.”

Vi agrees, “what I’m doing now will maybe help somebody else, maybe help me, maybe it’ll help my sisters, it might help my friends, so that’s why I’m doing it. You’re just doing it because you want to do something good for somebody else. Somebody said ‘Don’t you get paid?’ I said, “No, you don’t get paid!” It doesn’t matter, you don’t do it to get paid, you just do it because it’s the right thing to do.”

The sisters have been on the study for just over a year and a half and are committed to being on the drug for 5 years. Dorothy is pretty sure they have ‘guessed’ who is on placebo, “we just support each other, we joke about it, we just say, ah I think it’s worth it, I just think it’s totally worth it.”

They are looking forward to hearing the eventual results of the trial and as Ruth noted, “We have celebrations at the drop of a hat, so this will really be good. It’s not there now, but it will come and if we’re there to help that process, that would be wonderful.”



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