Dr. Anna Wu received her undergraduate degree in physiology at the University of California at Berkeley and her doctoral degree in Public Health (Epidemiology) from the University of California at Los Angeles.

One area of my research activities is devoted to understanding causes of breast cancer, particularly the rising rates in Asian Americans and in Asia. I have an active program of research studies, including case-control studies of breast cancer in Asian Americans, cohort studies of breast cancer using the Singapore Chinese Health Study, and cross-sectional studies of mammographic density. In addition, I am investigating whether dietary or hormonal modifications can reduce mediators associated with cancer etiology or with cancer prognosis. I have completed several clinical trials in healthy women to determine the effects of soy and green tea supplementation on mammographic density and sex hormone markers, established intermediate markers for breast cancer. We are now expanding these studies to include high risk women and breast cancer patients. These intervention studies complement the observational studies. I am also conducting studies to better understand lifestyle and environmental determinants associated with prognosis of breast and other cancers.

A new area of breast cancer research I have been funded is to investigate whether air pollution, in particular traffic-related air pollution, may affect breast cancer risk. This study will be based on about 60,000+ female participants of the Multiethnic Cohort study who live in Los Angeles County and will represent one of the few prospective studies of air pollution and breast cancer in whites and non-whites.