

COULD I BENEFIT FROM A CANCER GENETICS CONSULTATION?

You may want to see a cancer genetics expert if:

- You have questions about inherited cancer risk in your family
- You or one of your family members carry a mutation in an inherited cancer risk gene
- You want personalized information about cancer treatment, prevention, screening options and/or research opportunities for individuals with inherited cancer(s)



HOW DO I GET INFORMATION?

Our counseling and testing service is comprised of board-certified genetics experts. To set up a genetic counseling appointment at Moffitt, please call 813-745-3980 or 1-800-456-3434, ext. 3980.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Inherited Cancer Registry (ICARE)

The mission of ICARE is to end the cycle of inherited cancer through research, education and outreach. Through ICARE, we partner with healthcare providers and patients facing inherited cancer risk to meet this goal. To learn more, visit inheritedcancer.net or contact the study team:
Email: ICARE@inheritedcancer.net
Phone: 813-745-6446
(toll-free: 1-800-456-3434, x6446)



National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)

The mission of the National Society of Genetic Counselors is to advance the various roles of genetic counselors in health care by fostering education, research and public policy to ensure the availability of quality genetic services. To locate genetic counseling services close to you, visit: <http://www.nsgc.org>



National Cancer Institute PDQ® Cancer

Information Summaries: Genetics PDQ is an online database developed and maintained by the National Cancer Institute which is designed to make the most current, credible and accurate cancer information available to health professionals and the public: <http://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/genetics>



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DOES CANCER RUN IN YOUR FAMILY?



WHAT IS INHERITED CANCER RISK?

- Most cancers are sporadic (or happen by chance) and occur in patients without family history
- Approximately 5-10% of all cancers are “inherited” or “hereditary”
- Hereditary cancers are caused by a change (mutation) in certain genes
- Inherited cancer risk can affect both men and women of all ages
- These gene changes:
 - May be passed down from mothers OR fathers to sons AND daughters
 - May increase a person’s risk for developing one or more types of cancer (However, not all people who inherit the changed gene will develop cancer)

WHAT FEATURES MAKE INHERITED CANCER RISK MORE LIKELY IN MY FAMILY?

- Cancer diagnosed at a young age (generally younger than age 50)
- A person with more than one type of cancer (e.g., both colon and uterine cancer OR both breast and ovarian cancer)
- The presence of a very rare cancer (e.g. male breast cancer)
- Cancer diagnosed in multiple family members across generations
- Certain ethnic backgrounds (for example Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry)
- Certain tumor study results

There may be one or several of these features in a family.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I MEET WITH A CANCER EXPERT?

Your personal and family cancer history will be reviewed, including type(s) of cancer and age(s) at diagnosis. Based on this information a genetics professional will:

- Evaluate your risk of inherited cancer
- Discuss available genetic testing options to evaluate your risk of cancer
- Discuss the benefits and considerations of testing, including insurance coverage and confidentiality
- Help you decide if genetic testing is right for you
- Explain the process for ordering genetic testing
- Talk to you about medical management options based on your family history and/or genetic test results
- Discuss the emotional impact of the information on you and your family
- This visit may be referred to as a “genetic counseling session”

“ Through genetic counseling, I learned what my options for managing my cancer risks were. My genetic counselor went through the pros and cons of the choices I had available to me, in order that I could make the right decision for me. ”



Benita Hayes, breast cancer at age 37 (at which time her sister had already been diagnosed with breast cancer at age 35), carrier of a BRCA mutation.

HOW MAY GENETIC COUNSELING (AND TESTING) HELP ME AND/OR MY FAMILY MEMBERS?

Knowing if there is inherited cancer risk in your family may offer options for:

- Cancer prevention
 - Early detection
 - Personalized cancer treatment
- May help you to learn about the chances that you or your family members might develop certain types of cancer
 - Understand the types of cancer that can be related to an inherited cancer risk factor (e.g., breast, colon, ovarian, uterine, among others)
 - A cancer genetics expert can be an important part of your healthcare team



WHAT DOES GENETIC TESTING FOR INHERITED CANCER INVOLVE?

- Blood draw or saliva sample collection
- Results are usually available in a few weeks
- There are several options for covering the cost of genetic testing (e.g., health insurance, patient pay, financial assistance)