Hereditary Cancer

GENETIC TESTING PANELS

Because knowing your risk can mean early detection and prevention
Some of the most common cancers diagnosed are:

- breast
- prostate
- uterine
- colorectal

67% of people diagnosed with cancer survive more than 5 years after their diagnosis.

**Know the Basics**

**Types of Cancer**

- **Sporadic Cancer**: Happens by chance in one or two related family members, typically at older ages.
- **Familial Cancer**: A clustering of cancer in a family that may be due to genes and/or other shared factors, such as environment and lifestyle.
- **Hereditary Cancer**: A clustering of cancer in a family due to inherited gene changes (mutations), which can be passed from parent to child.
Cancer occurs in about **1 in 3 adults** in their lifetime.

**About Hereditary Cancer**

Many people have a family history of cancer, but only **5-10% of cancer is hereditary.**

People who have these gene mutations **are born with them** – they do not develop over time.

Learning if you have an **inherited mutation** can help you know more about your cancer risks.

People with a higher chance of developing cancer may need screening, like mammograms or colonoscopies, that start at **younger ages, and occur more often.**

The average age of **cancer diagnosis** in the general population is **66 years old.**
Should You Have Genetic Testing?

If you answer “yes” to any of the questions below, hereditary cancer genetic testing may be something for you and/or your family members to consider.

1. Have you/your family members* been diagnosed with cancer at a young age (<50 years old)?

2. Have you/your family members* been diagnosed with more than one cancer?

3. Have you/your family members* been diagnosed with cancers/tumors that you have been told are usually rare, such as ovarian cancer?

4. Have multiple people on the same side of your family had cancer?

5. Have any of your family members* been found to have a cancer gene mutation?

Your healthcare provider may identify other reasons why you could consider genetic testing.

*“Family members” refers to blood relatives, such as brothers/sisters/parents/grandparents/aunts/uncles/cousins
YOUR GENES CARRY A STORY THAT IS UNIQUE TO YOU AND MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE. GENETIC TESTING CAN HELP YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND YOUR RISKS FOR CANCER.

Genetic testing for hereditary cancer can include a varying number of genes that are linked to an increased lifetime risk for multiple cancers such as breast, colorectal, ovarian, uterine, and/or others. Based on your results, your healthcare provider may discuss more specific cancer risks for you and your family.

Examples of Genes Included in Testing and Lifetime Cancer Risks (%)

Ambry participates in important studies to expand our knowledge of hereditary cancers. To that end, our testing menu is continually being updated to include the most important genes for you and your family members.

Your healthcare provider has determined that the best test for you is:

☐ CancerNext
☐ CancerNext-Expanded
☐ CustomNext-Cancer
☐ Other: ____________________________

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

See updated information on which genes are included on the test your healthcare provider selected above: ambrygen.com/patient/cancer
What are the Benefits of Genetic Testing?

FOR YOU:

Your healthcare provider can adjust your cancer screening plan (such as age of initial screening, type, and frequency) based on your genetic test results.

- Examples of cancer screening are mammograms, breast MRI, colonoscopy, prostate exam, dermatology exam, or other screening as appropriate

Your healthcare provider may discuss possible cancer prevention options, such as preventive surgery to reduce the risk for certain cancers.

- Examples include prophylactic mastectomy (removing one or both breasts before a cancer occurs) or prophylactic oophorectomy (removing the ovaries and Fallopian tubes before a cancer occurs)

Your doctor can discuss the possibility of other personalized treatment options based on your genetic test results.
If you test positive for a genetic mutation, your close family members (like your parents, brothers, sisters, children) have a 50/50 random chance of also having the same mutation.

- Men and women have the same chance to inherit a mutation, but their chance to develop cancer may be different.
- Typically genetic testing is recommended for adults, but it is important to discuss genetic testing for children under age 18 with your healthcare provider to determine if it may be helpful.
Possible Genetic Test Results

**POSITIVE**

A mutation was found in at least one of the genes tested

There are increased risks for cancer and management recommendations specific to the gene that has a mutation

Genetic testing for certain family members may be recommended

**NEGATIVE**

No genetic changes were found in any of the genes tested

Cancer risk(s) and management recommendations are based on personal and family history

Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if genetic testing should be considered for your family members

**VARIANT OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE (VUS)**

At least one genetic change was found, but it is unclear if this change causes an increased risk for cancer or not

Cancer risk(s) and management recommendations are based on personal and family history

Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if genetic testing should be considered for your family members

*It is possible to have a combination of positive and VUS results, since multiple genes are tested.*
Resources For You

ORGANIZATIONS YOU MAY WANT TO CONNECT WITH:

Ambry’s Hereditary Cancer Site For Families
patients.ambrygen.com/cancer

American Cancer Society
cancer.org

American Society of Clinical Oncology
cancer.net

Cancercare
cancercare.org

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
ginahelp.org

National Cancer Institute
cancer.gov

FIND A GENETIC COUNSELOR

National Society of Genetic Counselors
nsgc.org

Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors
cagc-accg.ca
1 **HOW IS GENETIC TESTING PERFORMED AND HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?**

Genetic testing is done using a blood or saliva sample, which is collected using a special kit that is shipped overnight to Ambry (all coordinated by your healthcare provider). Testing looks for mutations that cause an increased risk for cancer. It takes less than three weeks for the testing to be completed and results are sent to your healthcare provider.

2 **WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN MY RESULTS ARE READY?**

Your healthcare provider will receive your results; they will not be sent directly to you. Every healthcare provider may have a different method and time frame to contact you to discuss your results, so it is important to discuss this process with them. Based on your test results, your healthcare provider will discuss any next steps.

3 **WILL MY GENETIC TEST RESULTS AFFECT MY INSURANCE COVERAGE?**

In the U.S., the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (2008) prohibits discrimination by health insurance companies and employers, based on genetic information. Depending on where you live in the world, you may have different (or fewer) laws in this area. Visit ginahelp.org to learn more.
4 SHOULD I TELL MY FAMILY MEMBERS ABOUT MY GENETIC TEST RESULTS?

It is important to share your results with your family members since they may provide additional information about their cancer risks and management options. Everyone reacts differently to health-related news, but it’s important to share your results with your family members. Since genetic test results can be shared in a number of ways, your healthcare provider may be able to guide you on finding the best way to inform family members.

5 WILL GENETIC TESTING BE COVERED BY MY INSURANCE?

Many insurance plans cover genetic testing and Ambry is contracted with the majority of U.S. health plans. Your out-of-pocket cost may vary based on your individual plan; therefore, we offer personalized verification of insurance coverage and financial options for your genetic testing. With Ambry’s E.P.I.C. (Every Patient Individually Considered) Program, your individual circumstances are considered for financial assistance. A team of dedicated specialists is available to help you get access to the genetic testing you need and answer any questions you have about our payment options. Call or email our Billing department at +1.949.900.5795 or billing@ambrygen.com with any questions.

6 WHAT IS AN EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS (EOB)?

Your insurance company sends you an EOB to explain any services paid on your behalf. You can contact us directly to speak with a Billing specialist with any questions or concerns about your EOB. Some genetic tests take weeks to process in order to receive the best results. In addition, insurance companies can take several weeks or even a couple of months to process claims.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?
Talk to your doctor or visit our website: ambrygen.com
Finding Answers.