

To schedule a genetic counseling appointment at Mount Carmel or for additional information, please call 614-234-6848.

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MOUNT CARMEL Cancer Genetics Program





Cancer Genetics Program

The Mount Carmel Cancer Genetics Program has licensed genetic counselors who provide a hereditary cancer risk assessment, education, genetic testing, and support to patients and their families concerned about their personal and family history of cancer. Additionally, the genetic counselor helps them to understand their risk for developing cancer as well as their options for screening and risk reduction.

Who Should Consider Genetic Counseling?

Genetic counseling at Mount Carmel Cancer Genetics is appropriate if any of the following applies.

Personal history includes:

- Breast cancer at age 50 or younger
- Triple-negative breast cancer
- Ovarian cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer/Tumor
- Metastatic Prostate Cancer
- Breast cancer in both breasts or multiple breast cancers
- Male breast cancer
- Uterine cancer at age 50 or younger
- Colorectal cancer at age 50 or younger
- Gastric cancer at age 40 or younger
- Kidney cancer at age 50 or younger
- Bilateral or multifocal kidney cancer
- Medullary thyroid cancer
- Adrenocortical tumor
- Choroid plexus carcinoma
- Hemangioblastoma
- Desmoid tumor
- Multiple different types of cancer: breast, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic, male breast, melanoma, uterine, thyroid, sarcoma, colorectal, small bowel, gastric, renal, etc.
- Ten or more colorectal polyps in a lifetime

Family history includes:

- Male breast cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Metastatic prostate cancer
- Breast cancer at age 45 or younger
- Gastric cancer at age 40 or younger
- Ovarian cancer
- Adrenocortical tumor
- Choroid plexus carcinoma
- Hemangioblastoma
- Desmoid tumor
- Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry and a personal or family history of breast or ovarian cancer
- Known hereditary mutation

Other family history or personal history indications:

- Two or more relatives with breast cancer
- Two or more relatives with uterine or colorectal cancers
- Two or more relatives with any combination of these cancers: Breast, ovarian, prostate, pancreatic, male breast, melanoma, uterine, thyroid, sarcoma, colorectal, small bowel, gastric or renal
- Individual who has undergone genetic testing and would like to have a more detailed discussion about test results
- Individual concerned about their personal and/or family history of cancer and wishes to discuss this with a genetic counselor.

Approximately 10% of individuals with cancer are thought to have an inherited cancer susceptibility syndrome and may benefit from a hereditary cancer risk assessment.

Will My Insurance Cover Genetic Testing?

Genetic testing is becoming increasingly affordable. Most insurance providers cover genetic testing 80- 100% if medically indicated. There are also patient assistance programs and affordable patient-pay options now available.

Can Lose My Health Insurance if I Have a Hereditary Cancer Syndrome?

There are state and federal laws in place to protect you. The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) is a federal law that was passed in 2008. GINA applies to group health insurance plans and self-insurance plans. However, this law does not include disability and life insurance. Some individuals may consider obtaining life insurance policies before having genetic testing.

What Happens at a Genetic Counseling Appointment?

You will meet with a genetic counselor to discuss:

- The likelihood that the cancers in the family are hereditary
- The risks, benefits and limitations of genetic testing, including insurance coverage and confidentiality
- Medical management including available screening and risk reduction option