

Cancer is unfortunately very common, affecting approximately 1 in 2 men and 1 in 3 women during their lifetime. Although most cancers are not inherited, some families do have a higher risk for cancer than others. Genetic counseling and testing can help determine if there may be inherited genetic risk for cancer in a family, who in the family is at higher risk for cancer, and to guide the appropriate screening and medical management for individuals at higher risk. This section discusses the connection between genes and cancer, provides an overview of the genetic testing process, and touches on some important considerations when deciding whether or not to pursue cancer genetic testing.

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