



If genetic testing is performed but does not identify a harmful genetic variant, or if testing is declined for any reason, DNA banking is another resource available to ensure the ability for future genetic testing of one's DNA. This is primarily for the benefit of family members, and can allow for the most informative genetic testing and interpretation in the family (since it is always recommended to start testing in a family member who has had the cancer of concern). DNA banking is available through many laboratories throughout the country at relatively low cost, and can be facilitated by your genetic counselor or other providers. If you pursue DNA banking, it is important that you keep copies of the paperwork and inform your family members of this resource for them.

Click [here](#) to learn more about scheduling a genetic counseling appointment for questions about hereditary cancer predisposition.

## Related Articles

- [Sporadic vs. Inherited Cancers](#)

Research over the past few decades has shown that genes play a key role in the development and behavior of cancers. In short, genes are the instructions that tell our cells how to grow and function to keep us healthy. Therefore, changes within those instructions can cause cells to lose...

- [Genetic Testing for Hereditary Cancer](#)

Genetic testing for hereditary cancer first starts with a genetic consultation to collect and analyze the personal and/or family history of cancer. If a pattern suggestive of hereditary cancer is identified, then genetic testing may be considered for further clarification or confirmation of the specific cancer risks. Depending on...

- [Why Consider Genetic Testing for Cancer Risk?](#)

There are several reasons why someone may consider genetic testing for hereditary cancer predisposition, which are outlined below. High-Risk Screening and Risk Management One of the primary benefits of knowing about hereditary cancer risk is the ability to take control of that risk in partnership with your healthcare team. Genetic...

- [Common Concerns about Genetic Testing](#)

Genetic testing for cancer risk is a very personal decision, and is not right for everyone. Some people are concerned about the benefits versus potential risks, while others are more concerned with insurance or privacy issues. Click below to learn more about these common concerns pertaining to genetic testing: Will...

- [Breast Cancer](#)



Breast cancer is a complicated disease, and there is no single explanation for it. In the vast majority of breast cancer, the cause is likely some genetics, some environmental factors (such as exposures to toxins and/or chemicals), and a lot of it is just bad luck. In most cases...