

WHEN TO REFER TO A GENETICS PROFESSIONAL



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO KNOW IF YOUR PATIENT'S CANCER IS HEREDITARY?

- Helps the patient to choose the right cancer therapy
- Informs the patient and the patient's family of their risk and allows them to get tested

HOW TO IDENTIFY A PATIENT WITH HEREDITARY RISK:

- Update medical history.
- Update family history.
- Evaluate for risk of hereditary cancer syndrome and refer if appropriate.

HEREDITARY RISK RED FLAGS:

- 🚩 Younger than 50 years old with a cancer diagnosis
- 🚩 Personal history of more than one cancer diagnosis
- 🚩 Multiple family members with cancer
- 🚩 Diagnosed with a rare cancer

OTHER HEREDITARY RISK FACTORS:

Personal or family history of:

- Male breast cancer
- Ovarian cancer
- Retinoblastoma
- Pheochromocytoma
- Medullary thyroid cancer
- Triple negative breast cancer (younger than 60 years old)
- Breast, colon or endometrial cancer (younger than 50 years old)
- Known genetic pathogenic variant
- Pancreatic cancer
- >20 adenomatous polyps; >5 serrated polyps with 2 polyps 10 cm or >20 serrated polyps
- Paraganglioma
- MSI high colon or endometrial cancer
- Multiple cancers in an individual or a family

If the patient has at least 1 of these risk factors:

- Refer to a genetics professional
- Continue to update and reevaluate the patient's medical history and family history every year



National Comprehensive Cancer Network. (2020a). Genetic/Familial High Risk Assessment Breast, Ovarian and Pancreatic Version 1.2020. Retrieved from www.nccn.org

National Comprehensive Cancer Network. (2020b). Genetic/Familial High Risk Assessment: Colorectal version 1.2020. Retrieved from www.nccn.org

Suszynska, M., Klonowska, K., Jasinska, A. J., & Kozlowski, P. (2019). Large-scale meta-analysis of mutations identified in panels of breast/ovarian cancer-related genes - Providing evidence of cancer predisposition genes. *Gynecologic Oncology*, 153(2), 452-462. DOI: 10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.01.027

This resource was developed by ONS through a sponsorship from AstraZeneca. Property of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS)