

## Hereditary Pancreatic Cancer

Genetic testing with the Pancreatic Cancer Panel may be appropriate if your personal and/or family history is suggestive of a hereditary predisposition to cancer. **This includes:**

- Pancreatic cancer diagnosed at any age
- A first degree relative diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- Multiple relatives diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and/or related cancers (including breast, colon, or melanoma)

Your healthcare provider will determine if genetic testing is medically necessary for you.)

## Genes Included on the Hereditary Pancreatic Cancer Panel are Listed in the Table Below

**High-Risk Genes** Well-studied • Greater than 4-fold risk of developing one or more cancers • Can cause a moderate risk for other cancers • National or expert opinion guidelines for screening and prevention are established

**Moderate-Risk Genes** Well-studied • Approximately 2- to 4-fold risk of developing one or more cancers • May increase risk for other cancers • Limited guidelines for screening and prevention

**Newer Genes** Not as well-studied • Precise lifetime risks and tumor spectrum not yet determined • Guidelines for screening and prevention are limited or not available

| Gene           | Lifetime Cancer and/or Tumor Risks*                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>APC</i>     | Colorectal (up to 93%), Duodenal or periampullary (4-12%), Gastric, Thyroid (up to 3%), Pancreatic, Brain-medulloblastoma, Liver-hepatoblastoma, Desmoid tumors, Gastrointestinal polyps                                     |
| <i>BRCA1</i>   | Female breast (55-87%), Ovarian (39-59%), Prostate, Male breast, Pancreatic, Fallopian tube, Primary peritoneal, Endometrial-serous                                                                                          |
| <i>BRCA2</i>   | Female breast (33-84%), Prostate (up to 34%), Ovarian (11-27%), Pancreatic (up to 7%), Male breast (up to 7%), Melanoma, Fallopian tube, Primary peritoneal, Endometrial-serous                                              |
| <i>CDKN2A</i>  | Melanoma (28-67%), Pancreatic (17%), Brain-astrocytoma                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>EPCAM**</i> | Colorectal (69-75%), Endometrial (12-55%), Ovarian, Gastric, Pancreatic, Biliary tract, Urinary tract-transitional cell, Small bowel, Brain, Sebaceous neoplasms, Prostate                                                   |
| <i>MLH1</i>    | Colorectal (34-46%), Endometrial (18-54%), Ovarian (10-20%), Gastric (6-20%), Urinary tract-transitional cell (1-4%), Pancreatic (1-4%), Biliary tract (2-3%), Small bowel (4-12%), Brain, Sebaceous neoplasms, Prostate     |
| <i>MSH2</i>    | Colorectal (37-48%), Endometrial (21-57%), Ovarian (10-24%), Urinary tract-transitional cell (8-20%), Gastric (<1-9%), Pancreatic (1-4%), Biliary tract, Small bowel (1%), Brain, Sebaceous neoplasms, Prostate              |
| <i>MSH6**</i>  | Colorectal (20-44%), Endometrial (16-71%), Ovarian (1-13%), Gastric, Pancreatic, Biliary tract, Urinary tract-transitional cell, Small bowel, Brain, Sebaceous neoplasms, Prostate                                           |
| <i>PALB2</i>   | Female breast (up to 58%), Male breast, Pancreatic, Ovarian, Prostate                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>PMS2**</i>  | Colorectal (11-20%), Endometrial (12-26%), Ovarian, Gastric, Pancreatic, Biliary tract, Urinary tract-transitional cell, Small bowel, Brain, Sebaceous neoplasms, Prostate                                                   |
| <i>STK11</i>   | Female breast (up to 54%), Colorectal (39%), Pancreatic (11-36%), Gastric (29%), Ovarian tumors (21%), Lung (7-17%), Small bowel (13%), Cervical (10%), Testicular tumors (9%), Endometrial (9%), Gastrointestinal polyps    |
| <i>TP53</i>    | Female breast (85%), Soft tissue sarcoma, Osteosarcoma, Brain, Hematologic malignancies-Acute leukemias among others, Adrenocortical carcinoma, among others.<br>Overall risk for cancer: up to 95% in females, 88% in males |
| <i>VHL</i>     | Renal-clear cell (up to 69%), Hemangioblastomas-retinal and central nervous system (50-80%), Pheochromocytomas (11-19%), Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (8-17%), Endolymphatic sac tumors (up to 10%)                      |

High-Risk Genes

|                     | Gene | Lifetime Cancer and/or Tumor Risks*                               |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moderate-Risk Genes | ATM  | Female breast (27-33%), Colorectal, Ovarian, Pancreatic, Prostate |
| Newer Genes         | CDK4 | Melanoma                                                          |

\*Most commonly associated cancer/tumors listed; lifetime risks provided when available. Risks relate to carriers of a single pathogenic variant.

\*\*Tumor spectrum is representative of Lynch syndrome; data are limited with regard to the association of certain cancers with pathogenic variants in MSH6, PMS2, and EPCAM.

## Possible Outcomes of Genetic Testing



### Positive

- Pathogenic or likely pathogenic variant identified
- Medical management recommendations may be available
- Family member testing may be recommended



### Negative

- No significant genetic changes identified
- Medical management based on personal and/or family history



### Variant of Uncertain Significance (VUS)

- A genetic change identified, but its association with disease is unclear
- Medical management based on personal and/or family history

## Medical Management Based on Genetic Test Results

Clinical guidelines may be available which provide options and recommendations for patients who have a **positive** (pathogenic or likely pathogenic variant) test result indicating an increased risk for cancer and/or tumors. Guidelines and recommendations for early detection and/or risk reduction are specific to the gene in which the pathogenic variant was found.

### Recommendations may include:

- Clinical exams, such as skin and/or eye exams
- Imaging exams, such as a mammogram, MRI, CT and/or ultrasound
- Screening procedures, such as pancreatic surveillance, colonoscopy and/or endoscopy
- Risk-reducing medications and/or surgery

In some cases, guidelines for screening and prevention are limited or not available for a positive result. Once your test results are available, a discussion with your healthcare provider is recommended to determine the most appropriate medical management options for you and your family.

### Resources

#### General

American Cancer Society  
[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

GeneDx  
[www.genedx.com/oncology](http://www.genedx.com/oncology)

National Cancer Institute  
[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

#### Pancreatic Cancer

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
[www.pancan.org](http://www.pancan.org)

Pancreatic Cancer Alliance  
[www.pancreaticalliance.org](http://www.pancreaticalliance.org)

#### Find a Genetic Counselor

Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors  
[www.cagc-accg.ca](http://www.cagc-accg.ca)

National Society of Genetic Counselors  
[www.nsgc.org](http://www.nsgc.org)