



Beyond *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* Genetic Testing

If you had genetic testing for the *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* genes in the past and received a negative or inconclusive result, you may be a candidate for additional genetic testing for hereditary breast and/or ovarian cancer.

Additional Genes, New Testing Technologies

We now know that many patients and families with an inherited predisposition to breast and/or ovarian cancer carry mutations in genes other than *BRCA1* or *BRCA2*.

Testing for these genes is now available and is typically covered by health insurance. Results are generally received in a few weeks.

Should I Consider More Genetic Testing?

If you had genetic testing in the past that was limited to *BRCA1* and *BRCA2*, or perhaps included only a few additional genes, and if your result was negative or inconclusive, more genetic testing is an appropriate option for you to consider.

Importantly, knowing if you have a mutation in a gene other than *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* may alter recommendations for cancer screening and risk reduction for you and possibly for your relatives.

I'm Interested In Learning More. What Should I Do Next?

Inova's Cancer Genetics Program includes a team of board-certified genetic counselors who have expertise in the latest genetic testing and interpretation of results. During an appointment your genetic counselor will:

- Update the details of your personal and/or family history of cancer
- Review available genetic testing options
- Explain how the results may influence recommended cancer screening for you and/or your relatives
- Discuss the cost and insurance coverage for additional genetic testing
- Address any other questions or concerns you may have
- Obtain a sample from you for additional testing if you wish to pursue this

It can be difficult for some people to again ask the question of whether they have an inherited risk for cancer. Your genetic counselor can help to address this and any other related concerns as you make a decision about whether you want to have additional genetic testing.

Please ask your doctor to refer you to our Cancer Genetics Program for more information.

What can I expect after more testing?

If you pursue additional genetic testing your genetic counselor will give you a copy of your test results and will review your recommendations for cancer screening and risk reduction based on your test results and your personal and/or family history of cancer. You should then discuss these recommendations with your doctor(s) in order to finalize a personalized plan.

What If I Can't Find A Copy Of My Previous Genetic Test Results?

Your genetic counselor can help you to obtain another copy of any previous genetic test results. You can still choose to have additional genetic testing even if we cannot obtain a copy of your past results, or if you don't remember whether or not you previously had genetic testing.

More Details About Genetic Testing Beyond *BRCA1* and *BRCA2*

Different types of "multi-gene panels" are now available:

- High- and moderate risk panels include genes that cause a significantly increased risk for breast and/or ovarian cancer. There are guidelines for the recommended cancer screening and risk reduction for women and men who have a mutation in a high- or moderate risk gene.
- In addition to high- and moderate risk genes, other available multi-gene panels include newly described genes. Less is known about the cancer risks associated with mutations in these genes. Consensus guidelines for cancer screening are therefore not yet available, but are expected in the next several years.
- People who have a personal and/or family history that includes many different types of cancer may consider an even broader multi-gene panel.

Inova's Cancer Genetics Program serves individuals who are concerned about their personal and/or family history of cancer. Services are provided by board-certified genetic counselors trained in cancer risk assessment. Our expertise includes helping patients navigate through complex medical information and the practical and ethical implications of genetic testing.

We have four convenient locations in Alexandria, Fairfax, Fair Oaks and Leesburg.

Inova Alexandria Office

Breast Care Institute
1800 North Beauregard St.
Suite 50
Alexandria, VA 22311

Inova Fairfax Office

2700 Prosperity Ave.
Suite 100
Fairfax, VA 22031

Inova Fair Oaks Office

Radiation Oncology
3580 Joseph Siewick Dr.
Suite LL-001
Fairfax, VA 22033

Inova Loudoun Office

Radiology Oncology
44035 Riverside Pkwy.
Suite 100
Leesburg, VA 20176

**To schedule an appointment, call 703.698.2491.
For more information visit inova.org/cancer-genetic-counseling**