

Hereditary Breast Cancer Syndromes

Based on your family history, it is possible that you or members of your family have a change in one of your genes that makes it more likely you will get breast cancer. The most common hereditary breast cancer syndrome is the hereditary breast and ovarian cancer syndrome (HBOC).

Things You Should Know About HBOC:

- People with HBOC are more likely to get breast cancer:
 - For women, the risk for breast cancer is between 56% and 87%, or 56 to 87 out of 100.
 - For men, the risk may be as high as 6%, or 6 out of 100.
- People with HBOC are also more likely to get other cancers like:
 - Ovarian cancer
 - Pancreatic cancer
 - Prostate cancer
 - Melanoma
- Hereditary cancers may develop before age 40.
- Not everyone who inherits a gene change will get cancer.
- There is a 50% chance that people with HBOC will pass the gene on to their children.

Reasons to See a Genetic Counselor:

- The MeTree tool is a screening tool. It cannot tell you for certain that you or someone in your family has HBOC.
- A genetic counselor can tell you how likely you are to have HBOC.
- A genetic counselor can talk to you about being tested to see if you have HBOC.
- If you have HBOC there are things you can do to lower your chance of getting cancer or find it earlier, when it is easier to treat.
- If you have HBOC, other members of your family are at risk and can be tested for HBOC.