

Payment for services

Insurance coverage and fees vary for genetic services, however the majority of insurance plans are currently covering part or all of the cost of genetic counseling and testing. You will also have the option to pay for the services out-of-pocket. Questions about insurance reimbursement and fees can be addressed when you call to schedule your appointment.

How do I make an appointment?

You or your physician can obtain more information about the Hereditary Cancer Center or schedule an appointment by calling (816) 932-5785.

Hereditary Cancer Center

Medical Plaza III
4321 Washington, Suite 4000
Kansas City, MO 64111

The Cancer Institute

For more information call

(816) 960-4TCI (4824)

1 (866) 960-4TCI (4824)

Hereditary Cancer Center

*Risk assessment and genetic
counseling for families at risk
for inherited cancer*

 Saint Luke's Hospital
of Kansas City

SAINT LUKE'S HEALTH SYSTEM

saintlukeshealthsystem.org

Hereditary Cancer Center

The Cancer Institute's Hereditary Cancer Center at Saint Luke's Hospital is dedicated to prevention, risk reduction, and early detection in an ongoing attempt to help reduce the burden of cancer. The center is specifically designed for individuals and their families concerned about the risk of inherited cancers. Through education, risk assessment and genetic testing, individuals with a family history of certain cancers can gain a better understanding of their risk.

Who should consider a cancer risk assessment?

Does your family have:

- Breast and/or ovarian cancer occurring in more than one generation
- Cancer diagnosed 10 to 20 years earlier than usual (i.e., pre-menopausal breast cancer)
- Two or more close relatives with the same type of cancer
- More than one cancer diagnosis in the same relative
- A diagnosis of a hereditary cancer syndrome

If the above criteria describes the cancers in your family, you may be a good candidate for cancer risk assessment.



What does cancer risk assessment involve?

The Hereditary Cancer Center is staffed by board-certified genetic counselors. Genetic counselors are health care professionals trained to evaluate family history in order to identify genetic risk factors. Before an appointment, we will send several forms for you to fill out, including a family history form. We will also request any medical records on you or family members related to cancer diagnoses.

The genetic counseling visit includes:

- Education about the genetic basis of cancer
- Discussion of your personal risk factors
- Evaluation of your family history using a computer-generated customized pedigree and statistical models
- Discussion of health management options
- Genetic testing (when applicable)
- A personalized plan aimed at prevention and early detection of cancer

Genetic testing

Most cancers are not inherited. They are caused by a series of genetic changes (mutations) that build up in cells over a period of years. However, some families develop cancer because of an inherited mutation that puts them at higher risk for cancer. It is now possible to test for some of these mutations through a blood test. The blood test looks at an individual's DNA to try and determine whether or not a mutation exists in a specific cancer gene. Genetic counseling through the Hereditary Cancer Center will provide you with information about the potential benefits and limitations of genetic testing to help you make the decision that is best for you and your family.

What are the benefits of a cancer risk assessment?

Cancer risk assessment is focused on determining whether an individual is at increased risk for cancer. After our evaluation, some individuals will find that their risk is not as high as they thought. Other individuals will be found to have a much higher risk for cancer than suspected. They can use this information to access, through their health care provider(s), available prevention and early detection methods. In addition, families in which a hereditary cancer syndrome is found will be able to share this information with family members who may be at risk as well.