

If you have been newly diagnosed with ovarian cancer, genetic testing is important. These questions may help you talk with your doctor and make informed decisions about treatment and care. Please also see the additional questions to ask your doctor in the resources below.

Additional Questions to Ask the Doctor



Additional Resources



For more information about ovarian cancer, please visit [ovarian.org](https://www.ovarian.org).

The National Ovarian Cancer Coalition does not provide medical advice.

1-888 OVARIAN (1-888-682-7426)
nocc@ovarian.org

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR: Genetic Testing for an Inherited Mutation



Genetic testing looks at genes you are born with and get from your parents. It helps find any genetic changes, like BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations, that can increase your cancer risk. Knowing if you have these mutations can help your family understand their risk.

If you have not been diagnosed with ovarian cancer, here are some common questions to ask about genetic testing:

- What is genetic testing for an inherited mutation, and why is it important?
- What does the term germline genetic testing mean?
- How is genetic testing done and how often should it be done?
- What specific genes are tested for changes (mutations) for ovarian cancer risk?
- What are the benefits and risks of genetic testing, and what will the results mean for my family?
- If I have a genetic mutation, does it mean I will get ovarian cancer?
- If I have a genetic mutation, what can I do to lower my risk? What does it mean for my children's health?
- Who will be able to see my test results? What are privacy rights?
- How long will it take to get the results from these tests?
- How much does genetic testing cost? Is it covered by insurance?
- Will you refer me to a genetic counselor to discuss the results?

**See other side for
additional questions**

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QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR: Genetic Testing for an Inherited Mutation



Genetic testing is important for anyone diagnosed with ovarian cancer. This test examines your DNA for inherited mutations, such as BRCA1 or BRCA2, which could have been passed down from a parent. Identifying these mutations is vital and plays an important role in identifying the most effective treatment.

If you have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer, here are some common questions to ask about genetic testing:

- Why is genetic testing being recommended for me now, after my ovarian cancer diagnosis?
- How do the test results help decide what treatments I should get? (targeted treatments)
- Can you review the treatment options I have and explain them to me?
- How will genetic counseling be a part of my testing process?
- What do my results mean for my family? What should they do?
- Are there clinical trials or research studies related to genetic testing and ovarian cancer that I should consider participating in?

**See other side for
additional questions**