CASCADE TESTING

Connecting the Dots by "Following the Firsts" & Sharing Information

Cascade Testing is one of the most important steps in breaking the cycle of hereditary cancer in families. It involves genetic testing of relatives when a hereditary cancer mutation is found in a family member. This testing-sharing-testing-sharing of genetic information plays a vital role in protecting the health and lives of loved ones in families with a history of cancer.

You tested positive for a pathogenic variant that puts you at risk of cancer. Now who else needs to be tested in the family? **Follow the firsts!**

Do you have **children**? They would be **first-degree** relatives.

Each one has a 50% chance of having inherited the *exact same variant*. Testing is needed when the children reach adulthood.

Do you have any **siblings**? They would be yours and your parent's **first-degree relatives.**

Each one has a 50% chance of having inherited the *exact same variant* from your parent. Testing is needed.

Tested positive.

Tested. Does not carry the variant. No further testing needed on this side of the family.

Does this sibling have any children? They would be your **nieces and nephews** and **first-degree** relatives of your sibling.

Each one has a 50% chance of having inherited the *exact same variant* and should to be tested when they reach adulthood.

Your **parents** are **first-degree** relatives. Are they living? If so, both need to be tested. If they are not living, continue to follow the firsts.

One of them likely pass the variant to you.

Tested positive or is deceased.

Tested. Does not carry the variant. No further testing needed on this side of the family.

Did your parent have siblings (**your aunts and uncles**)? They would be your parent's **first-degree** relatives.

Each one had a 50% chance of having inherited the *exact same variant*. Testing is needed.

Tested. Does not carry the variant. No further testing needed on this side of the family.

Tested positive or has not been tested or is deceased.

Did this relative have children? They would be your **cousins** and that relative's **first-degree** relatives.

Each one has a 50% chance of having inherited the *exact same variant*. Testing is needed.

Some examples of genetic variants that increase the risk of cancer:

BRCA1, BRCA2, CHEK2, ATM, PALB2, BARD1, BRIP1, CDH1,STK11, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2, EPCAM, TP53, PTEN, RAD51C, RAD51D, CDK4

ConnectMy VARIANT

www.ConnectMyVariant.org

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