

# Hereditary Cancer Program

Approximately 10% of all cancers are hereditary.

## We Don't Just Treat the Cancer – We Manage the Risk

At Virginia Oncology Associates, patients who are concerned about their personal and family history of cancer have an opportunity to meet with our board-certified genetic counselors, advanced practice providers and medical oncologists to discuss their risk of developing cancer.

Patients are evaluated for hereditary cancer syndromes, educated on the genetics of cancer, genetic testing, and management. Both pre- and post-test counseling sessions are an integral part of the overall process.

## Benefits of Genetic Testing

- Prevent or reduce the risk of cancer
- Earlier detection, which increases the chance of a successful outcome
- Knowledge of cancer risk to help make appropriate medical and lifestyle choices
- Information can be shared with family members so they can make informed decisions about their health

## Our Genetic Counseling Services Offer Extended Patient Support Options

- Individual cancer risk assessment
- The latest advances in cancer genetics
- Personalized cancer screening recommendations
- The risks, benefits, and limitations of genetic testing
- Options for participating in clinical research trials
- Resource and support group meetings for patients with hereditary cancer syndromes

**Atención:** Si hablas español, servicios de asistencia con el idioma, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted. Por favor llame al 1-757-213-5806 para más información.

**Chú ý:** Nếu bạn nói tiếng Hàn, Dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ, miễn phí, có sẵn cho bạn. Xin gọi 1-757-213-5806 để biết thêm thông tin.

**注意:** 如果你會說中國話, 語言援助服務 免費的是可供您使用 請有關詳細資訊, 致電 1-757-213-5806.

## Who Should Be Referred?

- Individuals with a cancer diagnosis at an unusually young age (younger than 50)
- Patients with a personal and family history of the same type of cancer
- Individuals with multiple primary cancers or bilateral disease
- Anyone with a family history of a known inherited mutation that causes cancer
- Individuals of certain backgrounds (e.g., Ashkenazi Jewish) and a family history of cancer
- Individuals with an unusual cancer presentation (e.g., male breast cancer)
- Anyone with epithelial ovarian cancer, primary peritoneal, fallopian tube cancer, pancreatic cancer, or metastatic prostate cancer regardless of the age of onset

## Genetic Risk Assessment Offered at Virginia Oncology Associates

Virginia Oncology Associates is pleased to offer genetic testing for multiple hereditary cancer syndromes. Below are some of the most common syndromes:

- Hereditary breast and ovarian cancer syndrome
- Familial adenomatous polyposis syndrome (FAP)
- Hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer syndrome (Lynch syndrome)

## Genetic Discrimination Concerns

Both federal and state laws exist to protect patients from health insurance discrimination based on genetic test results.

**Hereditary Cancer Program:**  
Southside (757) 466-8683  
Peninsula (757) 873-9400  
[www.VirginiaCancer.com](http://www.VirginiaCancer.com)



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