

TALKING POINTS TO EXPLAIN HEREDITARY CANCER TESTING

- THE HEREDITARY CANCER TESTING TEST FOR 39 GENES AND THE TEST LOOKS FOR SPECIFIC INHERITED CHANGES (MUTATIONS) IN A PERSON'S GENETIC MAKE-UP.
- GENETIC MUTATIONS MAY HAVE MULTIPLE DIFFERENT EFFECTS ON A PATIENT'S HEALTH. MUTATIONS THAT ARE HARMFUL MAY INCREASE A PERSON'S CHANCE, OR RISK, OF DEVELOPING A DISEASE SUCH AS CANCER.
- A POSITIVE RESULT FROM THE TEST WOULD NOT MEAN A PERSON HAS CANCER OR WOULD GET CANCER BUT WOULD MEAN THAT THE PERSON IS AT A HIGHER RISK OF GETTING CANCER IN THE FUTURE.
- IF A PERSON HAS A POSITIVE RESULT, THEY WILL BE GIVEN A FORM TO FILL OUT THAT WILL PUT THEM IN TOUCH WITH A GENETIC COUNSELING COMPANY AND A GENETIC COUNSELOR WILL GO OVER THE RESULTS OF THEIR TEST AND HELP THE PATIENT KNOW WHAT THEY NEED TO DO WITH BEING PROACTIVE WITH THEIR HEALTH WITH SUCH AS BEGINNING APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS AND THERAPIES SOONER.
- RESULTS FROM THE LABORATORY TAKE 4 TO 6 WEEKS TO COME BACK.