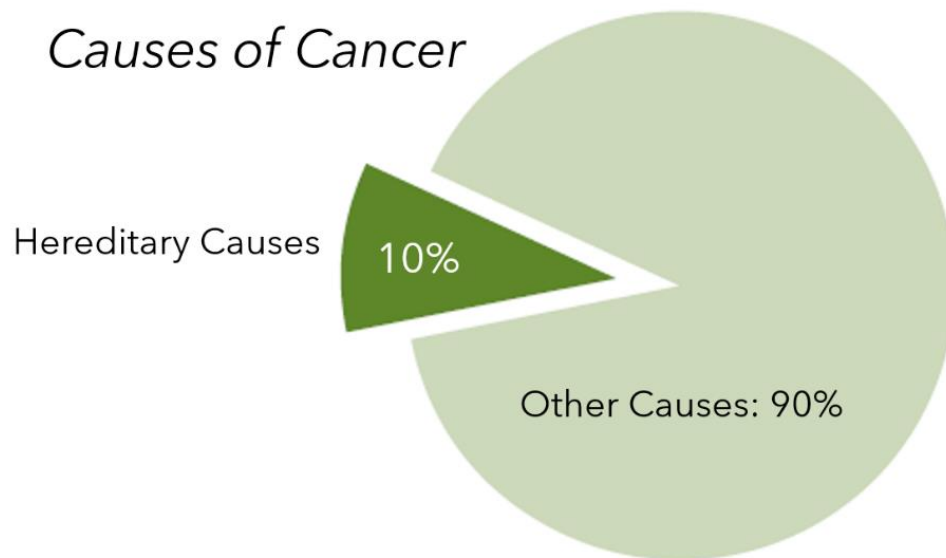


**Your provider ordered a genetic test to see whether you may have an inherited risk for cancer. Please read the information below to learn more about the test and possible results.**

***What is Hereditary Cancer?***

Most cancers do not run in families. However about 10 out of every 100 people who get cancer have an inherited genetic change, called a “mutation”, in a gene that causes it not to work properly. People born with these genetic mutations have a much higher chance of getting cancer than the average person. Anyone in these families can get cancer. A person can inherit these mutations from their father or mother, so knowing the history of cancer on both sides of the family is important. Although the chance of getting cancer is increased, it’s not certain.



***How do we test for hereditary cancers?***

The test is typically done on a small blood or saliva sample. Our test analyzes 48 different genes. It checks for the most common types of hereditary cancer, including breast, colon, rectal, pancreas, prostate, uterine and other types.

***What are the possible results of the genetic test?***

Test results usually take about two to four weeks and will come back as negative, positive or uncertain, often called a variant of uncertain significance (VUS). **We urge you to visit our Genetics website to watch a short video to learn about the meaning of hereditary cancer test results:**

<https://kp.qumucloud.com/view/genetic-tests-for-hereditary-cancer-en#/>

A negative result means the test did not detect any changes. A negative result can ease your mind about you or your family having hereditary cancer, but may not eliminate the possibility.

A positive result means that the test detected a change (mutation) in a gene that increases the chance of getting cancer. Depending on which gene has the mutation, the risks for developing

different types of cancer will vary. If you have cancer now, a positive result may help your doctor plan your treatment. It may also change the way your doctor checks for cancer in the future.

It is very important to share a copy of positive results with your blood relatives. Your children, siblings, parents, and others could have the same mutation.

Anyone with a positive result will have options for specific cancer screening tests to detect cancer early, when it is easier to treat, and possibly risk reducing surgery to lower their cancer risks as much as possible.

A *variant of uncertain significance* or *VUS* result means that the test did NOT find any known harmful changes. The test did find a DNA change, but it's unclear if that has any impact on the chance of getting cancer. For those with a VUS result the health care provider will NOT base recommendations for cancer treatment or screening on this result. A genetic test for a VUS in a family member cannot determine if family members have an increased risk for cancer.

### ***How will I get the results of the genetic test?***

You will get a message by text or email that you have results ready. The message will say, "Log on to [kp.org/actionplan](https://kp.org/actionplan) to review your test result and find out more information about the test". After you log on, you will have the opportunity to download a copy of the test. You can also click on a link to find out more about the meaning of the result.

If applicable, you will be referred to a genetic counselor to discuss the meaning of the results for you and your blood relatives, and recommended cancer screening based on your results.

### ***What is a genetic counselor?***

Genetic counselors are licensed health care providers with training and expertise in the areas of medical genetics and counseling. They review your medical and family history, ancestry and other health information to assess the chance that you or your family members will have a genetic condition. Based on their evaluation they may order and then interpret the meaning of genetic test results for you and your family members.

### ***Is there a charge for this test?***

This test is covered in the same way as other lab tests that may be ordered by your healthcare provider. As always, if you have questions about charges, you should contact member services.

**Please go to our Genetics website to watch our short videos and learn more about hereditary cancer:** <https://thrive.kaiserpermanente.org/care-near-you/southern-california/genetics/cancer/our-videos/>