



Cancer Family History Guide



The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is pleased to provide this Cancer Family History Guide. The guide is designed to identify patients at risk for two hereditary cancer syndromes: Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer syndrome (HBOC) and Lynch syndrome.

If a significant family history is reported, the tool indicates that: 1) a patient **referral** for genetic counseling and further evaluation is appropriate; and 2) increased **screening** and consideration of **management** options are indicated.

This guide evaluates family history **ONLY**. If a patient has a personal history of any of the following, genetic counseling should be considered.

- Breast cancer under age 50 or ovarian cancer at any age
- Ovarian cancer and a close relative with breast or ovarian cancer
- Bilateral cancer or multiple cancer diagnoses (i.e. both breast and ovarian cancer)
- Breast or ovarian cancer and Ashkenazi Jewish descent
- Breast cancer in a male patient (at any age)
- Colon cancer or uterine cancer under age 50
- 10 or more gastrointestinal polyps

For instructions on using the Cancer Family History Guide, see reverse side.

Instructions

The guide can be used quickly during clinic time. ****Note:** If a patient has a personal history of breast, ovarian, endometrial (uterine), colorectal, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer, this guide is not appropriate.

To use the guide, follow these quick instructions:

1. Start with the outermost wheel.
2. Line up the appropriate arrow for each ring on the guide
3. Select cancer type from the colored sections - do a separate assessment for each cancer type
4. Outer wheel— # of family members affected with the selected cancer type (consider only 1st or 2nd degree relatives)
5. Middle wheel — Select earliest age at diagnosis in the family (i.e. > 50 or <50)
6. Inner wheel— Are all affected relatives 1st degree or not? (go to Yes or No)

Results: When all the arrows are lined up, a color will appear in a round window on the inner wheel. Flip to the back of the wheel for referral and surveillance guidelines associated with each color.

- **RED** —————→ Take Action!!
- **YELLOW** —————→ Proceed with Caution
- **GREEN** —————→ Population screening

When assessing family history, it is important to consider factors that artificially lower a family's risk such as a disproportionate number of males to females; adoption; or multiple women with a hysterectomy/oophorectomy at a young age (reason unspecified).

For more information visit www.migeneticsconnection.org
or call 1-866-852-1247.