

# D O C T O R D O U G

*'The secret in the care of the patient is in caring for the patient'*

## **GENETIC SCREENING/TESTING:**

Genetic screening is now a practical tool that we can use to help in the management of your health and the health of your family. It is recommended by the USPTF (United States Preventive Services Task Force.) This has implications for you, but also for your family, and I think it is worthwhile to consider.

We are at the beginning stages of applying this science in the clinical setting, so it is of limited scope of application. I want to help determine if it can be applied to your particular family history. This questionnaire is meant to do just that.

1. Determine if you are at risk for cancers that run in the family
2. Determine if genetic testing, at it's current state of development, is applicable to your situation
3. Have the testing done to determine the best monitoring strategy, as well as helping guide you and your family in future testing and monitoring.

You will notice that this questionnaire has a specific focus on certain cancers, as that is the state of practical application of current genetic testing.

We are using a 28-gene panel from Myriad labs, the inventors of the BRCA test, which was the first large-scale genetic test validated for breast cancer family history.

For now, only a select group of patients can benefit. In the future, genetic testing will become commonplace and perhaps done routinely for everyone.

Answer the following questions and we will determine if you can benefit from this testing right now.

As for the cost, insurance coverage, and privacy issues related to such testing, this will be answered prior to running the test, so feel free to provide this information to initially see if you can benefit.

### **The process:**

Complete this questionnaire

Submit a specimen of saliva (spit test).....this will be the material that is genetically tested.

Myriad labs will contact you to review cost, insurance, and privacy issues before any testing is performed.

Once completed, you will receive a detailed report and we can review it together to determine the best strategy for monitoring your health on an ongoing basis, as well as having specific advice for monitoring of your family members.

In the future, should additional testing become available that is valid to do, your current information will be used in such an analysis.

Dr. Lakin

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