Genetic risk for breast and ovarian cancer

Some women have a personal or family health history that can put them at higher risk for breast or ovarian cancer. This brochure can help you learn about your risk.

For women age 25–80, inheriting certain gene changes (mutations) can increase a woman’s risk for developing breast or ovarian cancer, often at a younger age.

Starting at age 25, we recommend that every woman learn about her personal and family history and find out if further evaluation or genetic testing is needed.

Check your risk
See the chart on the back for factors that increase a woman’s risk. Check any of the items that are true for you.

If you checked 2 or more items in the chart, please contact your doctor to see if you need a referral to Genetics or Medical Oncology.
Risk factors checklist

✔ Check any of the items that are true for you.

Family member with breast cancer before age 50:

___ Yourself
___ Mother
___ Sister
___ Daughter

MOTHER’S SIDE
___ Grandmother
___ Aunt

FATHER’S SIDE
___ Grandmother
___ Aunt

Family member with ovarian cancer at any age:

___ Yourself
___ Mother
___ Sister
___ Daughter

MOTHER’S SIDE
___ Grandmother
___ Aunt

FATHER’S SIDE
___ Grandmother
___ Aunt

___ Two or more cases of breast cancer on the same side of the family after age 50
___ Mother, sister, or daughter with breast cancer in both breasts
___ Male relative with breast cancer
___ Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry