

## FAMILIAL CANCER GENETIC COUNSELLING SERVICE

### Genetic Counselling

Genomic Diagnostics offer through their qualified genetic counselling partners, supportive genetic counselling for patients undergoing familial cancer gene testing performed by the Genomic Diagnostics laboratory. This high-quality telehealth service is dedicated to providing support, education and information to assist patients in understanding the genomic testing they will be undertaking and its implications, in order for them to make informed decisions.

**Please note:** This service is included free of charge for MBS eligible testing.

### What does the Genetic Counselling Cover?

- Explanation of genetics, inheritance and the concept of inherited cancers
- Clarification of what the test detects, the benefits and limitations of testing, potential results and implications for the patient and other family members
- Discussion of the patient's cancer experience and psychosocial impact
- Answer any questions the patient may have
- Provision of fact sheet to patient and summary letter to referring healthcare practitioner

- Genetic counselling appointments are up to 60 minutes and are available 9am-5pm EST with after-hours and weekends by specific request.
- It is essential a current patient phone number is provided on the test request form.
- Counsellors will not be involved with disclosure of results, these are sent directly to your clinic

The counselling sessions for Familial Cancer Genetics are designed to enable patients to discuss any questions and explore any issues and implications of inheriting familial cancer genes. The service is not designed to offer genetic counselling regarding other genetic conditions unless agreed upon beforehand. Following the conclusion of the telehealth consultation, the counselling service has no subsequent duty of care to the patient as they are referred back to their healthcare practitioner.

### How do I refer someone for Genetic Counselling?

- 1 When referring a patient for familial cancer gene testing **discuss** the genetic counselling option with your patient
- 2 If your patient wishes to receive this option, write **"Genetic Counselling"** on the request form or tick the "Genetic Counselling" box
- 3 Genomic Diagnostics will contact their genetic counselling partners to initiate the counselling process which occurs before the test is performed
- 4 **Patient contacted** by counsellors within 24-48 hours to book counselling session
- 5 If the patient is **not MBS eligible** they will be asked to pay the genetic counsellors a fee of \$99 directly
- 6 **Patient counselling** session occurs
- 7 A summary of the counselling session is faxed to you as the referring doctor

After counselling, your patient will be referred back to you for ongoing management, result delivery and follow up.

For more information, contact us at [info@genomicdiagnostics.com.au](mailto:info@genomicdiagnostics.com.au)

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