

(trained in the U.S. or Australia). The genetic counselors understand Asian, American and European cultures, and can speak with patients and their family members in English, Cantonese, or Mandarin.

Hereditary Multi-Cancer Test

The Hereditary Multi-Cancer Test offered by the International Genetic Counseling Center (Hong Kong) determines both single nucleotide variants and large genomic rearrangements in over 80 genes, associated with over 40 cancers and genetic disorders that can cause cancers. The test covers cancers in the breast, ovary, uterus, prostate, stomach, colon, thyroid, rectum, small bowel, and pancreas. This test is a next-generation DNA sequencing test, with Sanger and long-read sequencing, and PCR methods to confirm challenging and hard-to-detect mutations.

Additional Testing for Patients With Mixed Cancers

In severe cancer cases, patients may be affected by cancers in multiple organs. An additional method called RNA sequencing will be used to detect splice variants in 40 genes, which may increase the diagnostic success for patients with mixed cancers.

Unlike most of the genetic tests available in the market that test only small mutations called single nucleotide variants in about 2 to 15 genes, the new Hereditary Multi-Cancer test covers both single nucleotide variants and large genomic rearrangements in 80 genes. Large genomic rearrangements are typically damaging mutations, but they are very difficult to detect using conventional DNA sequencing methods. These large genomic rearrangements are also linked to many young adult cancers, including early-onset breast, ovarian and colorectal cancers. Determination of both single nucleotide variants and large genomic rearrangements may increase the diagnostic success for patients affected by severe or young-onset cancers.

Patient Record and Privacy Protection

The Hereditary Multi-Cancer Test is performed in the United States. Patient privacy is protected by U.S. laws. The genetic test results, reports and patient information is securely stored in the U.S. in compliance with HIPAA, CAP and CLIA regulations. Test reports will not be released to any third parties.

Genetic Counseling, Testing Process and Pricing

Genetic counseling will be provided to guide and support the patients and their families. The Hereditary Multi-Cancer Test is performed in a U.S. CLIA-certified and CAP-accredited laboratory. The clinical report is issued by U.S. board-certified clinical geneticists or medical directors. The test is non-invasive with only a buccal (cheek) swab is needed. Clinical reports will be delivered to patients in a secured manner. If needed, a referral to cancer medical specialists will be provided. The pricing of two to four sessions of genetic counseling and the cancer test is HK\$6900.

For more information, please email us at maggielaw@counselorgenetics.com, call us at 9825 5312, or visit our website - <https://www.counselorgenetics.com/news>.

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