Hollings Cancer Center



Genetic Counseling

What is genetic counseling?

A conversation with a certified genetic counselor to learn more about genetic testing, review your personal and family history and discuss if genetic testing is recommended for you. The counselor can explain the test options, the process, and the expected results. They also discuss financial details and provide emotional support.

843-792-0745 | hollingscancercenter.org



Changing What's Possible

Genetics testing may help you and your family:

- Understand your risk of developing certain cancers
- Manage your cancer risk through screening or risk reduction
- Guide your cancer treatment
- Assess the impact to your family members

What to expect at your visit & common questions:

How is the visit conducted?

You will be guided by the genetic counseling administrative staff to connect with the genetic counselor through a computer for a video visit. You will be able to see and hear the counselor and she will be able to see and hear you.

How long is the appointment?

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to appointment time and expect the appointment to last about 1 hour. If you decide on testing, a simple blood test in the lab may take an additional 15 to 20 minutes.

What should I bring?

A list of any family history, including biological relatives who had cancer (the age at diagnosis and type of cancer), and genetic test results, if anyone had genetic testing previously. You are welcome to bring any family members with you for support and/or information.

When will results be available?

Results will be available between 5 days and 6 weeks, depending on what test is ordered. The genetic counselor will contact you by phone to discuss results. Results and recommendations will be shared with your MUSC Health Hollings Cancer Center provider.

Is there a cost for counseling?

There is no fee for the genetic counseling appointment. Charges for lab draw and testing depend on your insurance coverage.