

# **Pancreatic Cancer Webinar— Let's Learn!**

November 19<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. EST

## **Genetic Testing and Molecular Profiling Can Guide Treatment**



**Bryson Katona, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Gastroenterologist



**Joanna Mercado, M.S., L.C.G.C.**  
Licensed Genetic Counselor



**Chris Joseph**  
Patient Advocate



**Juan Pellerano-Rendon**  
Moderator

# Let's Win Pancreatic Cancer

Let's Win is a go-to resource that guides patients and caregivers with vital information for better outcomes. Through a dynamic online platform available in English and Spanish, everyone who is diagnosed with pancreatic cancer – or individuals at higher risk – can have easy access to the most up-to-date knowledge about their disease.

Let's Win has become a trusted resource for the pancreatic cancer community, providing a wealth of readily accessible, easily understandable, and medically vetted resources to give pancreatic cancer patients and their caregivers a clear path for action as well as much-needed hope.



[www.letswinpc.org](http://www.letswinpc.org)



# National Alliance for Hispanic Health

The National Alliance for Hispanic Health is the premier science-based and community-driven organization that focuses on the best health for all. Community-based members provide services to more than 15 million Hispanics throughout the U.S. every year and national organization members provide services to more than 100 million people annually. The Alliance works to ensure that health incorporates the best of science, culture, and community.



[www.healthyamericas.org](http://www.healthyamericas.org)



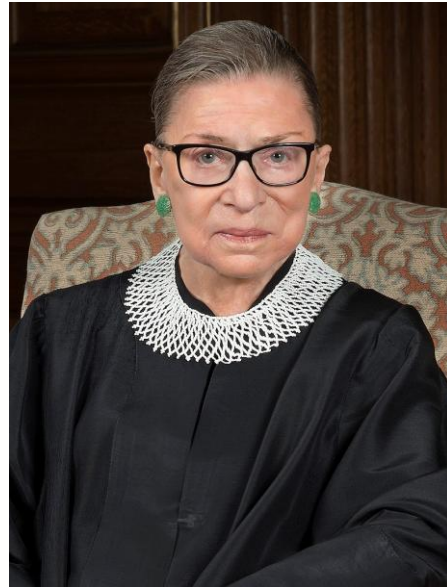
# The Importance of this Webinar

- To understand more about genetic testing and genomic testing or tumor profiling – what is similar and what is different about these tests
- To learn why these tests are so important
- To understand how these tests can impact treatment options, including clinical trial participation

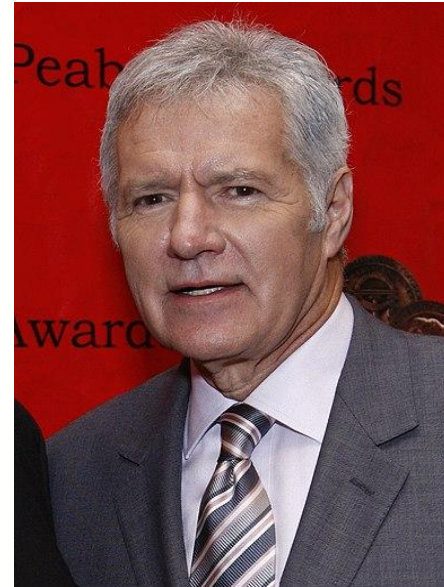
# Pancreatic Cancer: Among the Lives Lost



**Congressman John Lewis**  
July 2020



**Ruth Bader Ginsburg**  
September 2020



**Alex Trebek**  
November 2020



**Aretha Franklin**  
August 2018

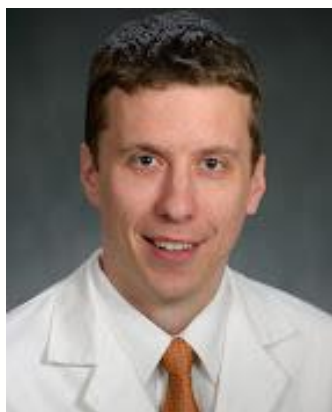
# Pancreatic Cancer: By the Numbers

- About 66,000 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year in the U.S.
- The average rate of occurrence in the U.S is 13.5% but in the Black community the rate is 15.9%
- The overall rate of occurrence is slightly lower in Hispanics but certain risk factors, such as type 2 diabetes are higher
- There are higher rates of Black (46%) and Hispanic patients (42%) diagnosed under the age of 65 compared to White (33%) and Asian (32%) patients
- The 5-year survival rate is about 13%
- Pancreatic cancer has vague symptoms
- Most people are diagnosed at a later stage of the disease
- The most effective treatment is surgery, but most patients are diagnosed at too advanced of a stage to undergo surgery
- At this time, there is no easy screening test for pancreatic cancer

# Where is the Pancreas?



# Today's Speakers



Bryson Katona, M.D, Ph.D.  
Director, Gastrointestinal  
Cancer Genetics Program  
Abramson Cancer Center  
Penn Medicine



Joanna Mercado, M.S.  
Licensed Genetic Counselor,  
Penn Medicine



Chris Joseph  
Pancreatic Cancer Thriver

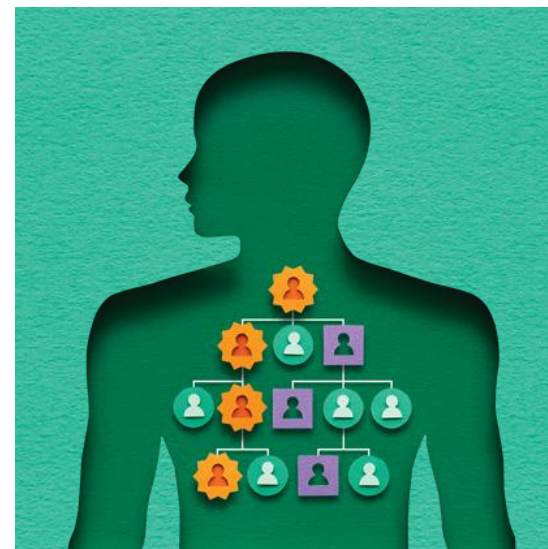


# What is Genetic Testing?

- Analysis of a person's genes that looks for mutations in cells that have been present in the body since birth. Also known as germline testing. This testing can determine if a patient has inherited a risk factor for pancreatic cancer.
- Germline mutations are inherited mutations that occur in every cell of your body. Germline mutations are passed to you from one of your parents.
- Genetic or germline testing can find inherited mutations that occur in all your cells.
- About 10 percent of pancreatic cancer cases are hereditary, caused by genetic or germline mutations in a person's DNA

# Concerns About Genetic Testing

- Medical genetic testing is handled by different companies than the ones that advertise all over.
- Genetic testing is now “standard of care” for pancreatic cancer and should be covered by insurance.
- Genetic counselors can help with these hurdles.
- Certified genetic counselors help you understand the results of genetic testing. They work alongside oncology teams and can be seen in person or through telemedicine



# Tumor Profiling

- Molecular profiling, tumor profiling, genomic testing, or somatic testing are different terms for the same test.
- A sample of your tumor tissue is analyzed for changes in the genes or proteins that makes them different from noncancerous cells.
- Genetic counselors can help with these hurdles.
- There may be mutations, or certain proteins, or biomarkers that are found that can indicate which treatment would be more effective against that tumor

# The Importance of Genetic Testing and Tumor Profiling

- The biggest reason for patients to get genetic testing and tumor profiling is to create a targeted treatment plan.
- Targeted treatment can help you live longer.
- Learn more about [genetic testing](#) and [molecular profiling](#) on the Let's Win website.

# The Impact of Testing

- Genetic and genomic testing changed my treatment
- Immunotherapy for my tumor genetics



Chris Joseph  
Pancreatic Cancer Thriver

# Q&A

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Please type your questions into the chat

# For More Information

Let's Win Pancreatic Cancer

[www.letswinpc.org](http://www.letswinpc.org)

Lustgarten Foundation

[www.lustgarten.org](http://www.lustgarten.org)

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network

[www.pancan.org](http://www.pancan.org)

American Cancer Society

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

Cancer Care

[www.cancercare.org](http://www.cancercare.org)



# Thank You

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Look for more Let's Learn Webinars coming in 2025

