

Ask Your Doctor



Family History and Genetic Mutations

Pancreatic cancer can run in families. Here are some questions to help you start a discussion with your doctor if your family has a history of pancreatic or other cancers.

Family medical history

- 1. Does my family and medical history affect my risk for pancreatic cancer?
- 2. What are the common family history and mutation risk factors for pancreatic cancer?

Genetic testing

- 1. Are there specific genetic factors I should be aware of related to my family's history?
- 2. Should I have genetic testing?
- 3. Does my family need to be concerned about an increased risk for pancreatic cancer? Should they consider genetic testing screening?

Screening

- 1. What screening options are available for someone with a family history of pancreatic cancer?
- 2. Should I undergo regular screening even if no mutation is found?
- 3. At what age should I start screening and how often should I have follow up screenings?
- 4. Is there anything I can do proactively other than get screened?
- 5. Should my family consider screening?