



MSD

AstraZeneca



CECOG

Central European Cooperative Oncology Group

A Guide To Genetic Consenting

Module 1: What is genetic consenting?

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Learning objectives

The primary purpose of this learning module is to inform and educate non-genetics HCPs on genetic consenting.

This module will enable HCPs to:

- Be aware of the essential criteria to provide informed consent
- Understand how genetic testing can guide treatment decisions in cancer



The consent process

A process of information exchange between a clinician and an individual or their legal proxy designed to facilitate autonomous, informed decision making

- The informed consent process for genetic testing should include:
 - An explanation of the medical and psychosocial risks
 - Benefits
 - Limitations
 - Potential implications of genetic analysis
 - A discussion of privacy and confidentiality
 - The documentation and handling of genetic test results
 - Options for managing the hereditary disease risk



Why offer genetic consenting?



Genetic consenting has **direct implications for the management of the patient's cancer**



Genetic consenting provides an understanding of **why the cancer has developed**



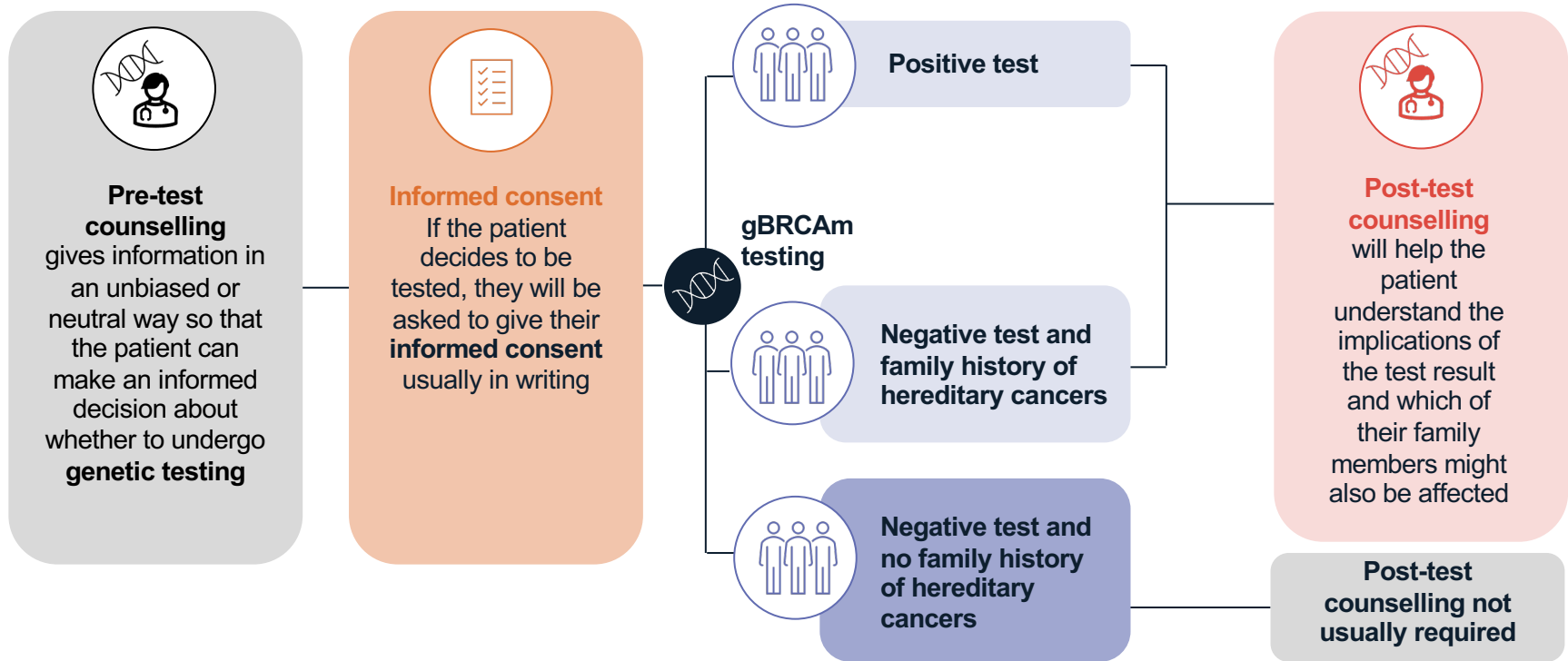
Genetic consenting may indicate whether a patient is at increased risk for other cancers



Genetic consenting provides the patient with an understanding of whether **others in their family are at increased risk for cancers**



Genetic counselling should be conducted before and after a genetic test for germline BRCA-associated cancers



gBRCAm=germline *BRCA1/2* mutation

American Cancer Society. Genetic Testing for Cancer Risk. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/genetics/genetic-testing-for-cancer-risk/what-happens-during-genetic-testing-for-cancer.html> (Accessed June 2022)

Post-test genetic counselling is important for patients with gBRCAm and their families

Genetic counselling is essential in helping patients and their families understand the implications of genetic test results, and make informed decisions about any treatment and lifestyle changes



gBRCAm=germline *BRCA1/2* mutation

In the case of a positive test result indicating a patient is carrying a gBRCAm, genetic counsellors will:

- Explain how the result will impact the affected patient's treatment; the cancer care team will discuss risk-reducing surgery and treatment options further^{1,2}
- Discuss the implications for the patient, including the risk of developing further BRCA-associated cancers³
- Explain the implications of this result for their family members, including future generations^{3,4}

1. UK National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Familial breast cancer: Classification, care and managing breast cancer and related risks in people with a family history of breast cancer. Clinical guideline [CG164]. Available at: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg164> (Accessed June 2022); 2. Nevieri Z, et al. *Ther Adv Med Oncol* 2020;12:1–16; 3. American Cancer Society. Genetic Testing for Cancer Risk. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/genetics/genetic-testing-for-cancer-risk/what-happens-during-genetic-testing-for-cancer.html> (Accessed June 2022); 4. US National Institutes of Health – National Cancer Institute. BRCA Gene Mutations: Cancer Risk and Genetic Testing. Available at: <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/genetics/brca-fact-sheet> (Accessed June 2022)



Summary

- Genetic consenting is a process of information exchange between a clinician and an individual or their legal proxy designed to facilitate autonomous, informed decision making¹
- Genetic consenting has direct implications for the management of the patient's cancer as well as determine familial risk²
- Genetic counselling should be conducted before and after a genetic test for germline BRCA-associated cancers³

1. National Cancer Institute. Consent process. Available at: <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/genetics-dictionary/def/consent-process> (last accessed June 2022); 2. Gleeson M, et al. *Oncol Nurse Forum*. 2013;40:275-283; 3. American Cancer Society. Genetic Testing for Cancer Risk. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/genetics/genetic-testing-for-cancer-risk/what-happens-during-genetic-testing-for-cancer.html> (Accessed June 2022).

