cancer do not carry a BRCA mutation. Individuals with negative results will still require routine screening for breast and other cancers.

Uncertain result
An uncertain result means that an alteration in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene has been detected but, at this time, it is not clear if the specific gene alteration will lead to cancer or not. Genetic information is evolving and expanding every day and researchers are constantly learning more about the gene alterations seen on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes and their associated cancer risks. Individuals with uncertain results should discuss appropriate surveillance and follow up with their physicians.

What options do I have if I carry a BRCA mutation?
If you are positive for a BRCA mutation, there are several options that you and your physician could consider to reduce the risk for developing cancer. Your options may include:

- Increased or enhanced screening for cancer
- Prophylactic surgery
- Drug therapy (chemoprevention)
- Evaluation of your family members’ risk
- Proactive (prophylactic) surgery
- Increased or enhanced screening for cancer

It is important to discuss these options with your doctor and/or your genetic counselor to understand which option is best for you.

Genetic Counseling for BRCAssure®
Your doctor may refer you to a genetic counselor to discuss your risk for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer and your testing options. A genetic counselor is a healthcare professional with a master’s degree in human genetics or genetic counseling. The role of a genetic counselor is to help you better understand your genetic risks and the tests available to you. Their training enables genetic counselors to discuss technical genetic information in practical, useful terms. Integrated Genetics genetic counselors are all board certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or are active candidates for certification.

What happens during a breast and ovarian cancer genetic counseling session?
The genetic counselor will lead you through a discussion to evaluate your medical history for relevant information, review your family history, and construct a family tree. Throughout the discussion the genetic counselor will use this information in order to:

- Evaluate your risk for breast and ovarian cancer and your risk to be a carrier for the BRCA1/2 genes.
- Discuss the genetic testing options which may be appropriate for you.
- Explain the potential results of BRCA1/2 testing and what those results may mean in the context of your family history.
- Provide an overview of cancer screening options and risk reduction measures.

The decision to accept or decline any recommended genetic testing is up to you. Additional written educational materials and/or information about community resources are available for you upon request.

How do I schedule an appointment with an Integrated Genetics genetic counselor?
If your physician recommends genetic counseling with Integrated Genetics, you can call 855-GC-CALLS or 855-422-2557 to obtain additional information and to schedule an appointment.
Who is at risk of having a BRCA mutation?

BRCA mutations can occur in both men and women in any ethnic or racial background. The estimated frequency of a BRCA mutation occurring in the general population is 1 in 400. There are specific ethnic groups that are at higher risk for having a BRCA mutation. The Ashkenazi Jewish population has a high risk of carrying a BRCA mutation with a frequency of 1 in 40.\(^4\)

| Risk of Cancer in Individuals with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 Mutation\(^6\) |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cancer Type     | General Population | Individuals with Mutation |
|                 | (no mutation)     | BRCA1 | BRCA2 |
| Breast          | 12%              | 50 - 80% | 40 - 70% |
| Ovarian         | 1 - 2%           | 24 - 40% | 11 - 18% |
| Male Breast     | 0.1%             | 1 - 2%  | 5 - 10%  |
| Prostate        | 15%               | up to 30% | up to 39% |
| Pancreatic      | 0.5%             | 1 - 3%  | 2 - 7%   |

Who should consider BRCA testing?

Reviewing your family history is important when considering if BRCA testing is right for you. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists\(^5\) and the National Comprehensive Cancer Network\(^6\) both support testing in individuals with a high risk or strong family history of breast or ovarian cancer.

Testing may be more appropriate for those with a personal or family history of:\(^1\)

- Breast cancer at a young age (<50 years)
- Ovarian cancer
- Multiple primary breast cancers either in the same or opposite breast
- Both breast and ovarian cancer
- Triple-negative breast cancer (estrogen receptor negative, progesterone receptor negative, & HER2/neu negative)
- Male breast cancer
- Ashkenazi Jewish heritage
- Pancreatic cancer with breast or ovarian cancer in the same individual or the same side of the family
- Two or more relatives with breast cancer, with one diagnosed under age 50
- Three or more relatives with breast cancer at any age
- A previously identified BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation in the family

In general, predictive genetic testing for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer is not recommended for at-risk individuals younger than 18 years of age.\(^1\)

How is a BRCA mutation inherited?

BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations are passed down, or inherited, from either your mother or father. BRCA mutations are inherited in an autosomal dominant fashion, which means that having just one copy of an altered BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene can increase your chance of developing certain cancers; you don’t need to inherit a mutation from both your mother and your father.\(^7\) When either your mother or father carries a BRCA mutation, there is a 50% chance you will also have the same mutation.\(^8\) It is important to remember that not everyone who inherits a BRCA mutation will develop cancer; individuals carrying a BRCA mutation only have an increased risk of developing cancer.

What is the purpose of BRCA testing?

The purpose of BRCA testing is to see if you are carrying a BRCA mutation and could therefore be at increased risk for developing certain cancers, including breast or ovarian cancer. Having this information can allow your physician or genetics professional to provide the appropriate additional screening and/or prevention options that could help reduce your risk of developing cancer. The BRCAsecure test requires a sample of blood and filling out a family history questionnaire.

What do the results mean?

BRCA genetic testing could give you a few possible results: positive, negative, or an uncertain result. In all cases, you should discuss the results and any appropriate follow-up with your physician.

Positive result

A positive test result means that you have inherited a BRCA mutation and have an increased risk of developing breast or ovarian cancer. This test result does not indicate if you will actually develop cancer.

A positive test result could also have important implications for your family members. You would have inherited this mutation from your mother or your father, and therefore your relatives could also be at risk for carrying a BRCA mutation. There will also be a chance that you will pass this mutation on to your children. It can be helpful to discuss this test result with your family members so they too can decide if genetic testing is right for them.

Negative result

A negative test result means that your chance of carrying a BRCA mutation has been greatly reduced, but not completely eliminated. This does not mean that you cannot develop breast cancer. Most people diagnosed with breast cancer.

(Continued on other side)