



CLINICAL SUPPORT FOR NEW TESTING PROTOCOL

A cancer center wants to standardize paired somatic/germline testing and knows its oncologists need more clinical support and its patients need education and informed consent. How My Gene Counsel can help.

An academic medical center has decided to begin offering paired somatic/germline testing to patients with solid tumors who would have previously been offered somatic-only testing. All germline testing was previously handled by genetic counselors, so they want to ensure all patients being tested in oncology clinics receive the same level of pre-test education and informed consent. They also need post-test clinical support for busy oncologists who may not be genetics experts, education for patients, and long-term engagement for their health system.

My Gene Counsel supports oncologist-initiated paired somatic/germline testing in this center by providing pre-test information about paired testing to patients, thus standardizing testing education and informed consent. Given that oncologists may have less familiarity with germline testing, My Gene Counsel also provides robust post-test information via Living Lab Reports® for all patients who have genetic testing (positive, negative, and VUS germline test results) and for their oncologists. This facilitates an engaged conversation between clinicians and patients about test results, next steps, implications for relatives, and long-term management.

Patients who test positive are referred for genetic counseling. Even when there is a significant wait to be seen, patients and oncologists have the information they need at their fingertips thanks to My Gene Counsel's Living Lab Reports. After a one-time genetic counseling appointment, patients and their clinicians also benefit from critical updates from My Gene Counsel that are specific to patients' test results, including new disease risk information, medical management guideline changes, and variant reclassifications.

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