

# Hallmarks of Heredity Risk: When to Test



## Patient Red Flags:

- Cancer diagnosed at a young age (<50yrs).
- More than one primary cancer.
- Diagnosis of a rare cancer or cancer associated with hereditary risk: Ovarian cancer, Male Breast cancer, Medullary Thyroid cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Neurofibromas.
- Presence of premalignant conditions (ie. polyps, moles).



## Tumour Red Flags:

- Microsatellite Instability in Colon/Endometrial cancer.
- Triple-negative Breast cancer.
- >7 Gleason Score in Prostate cancer.
- High Grade non-mucinous epithelial Ovarian cancer.



## Family History Red Flags:

- Autosomal dominant pattern of inheritance.
- Pattern of cancers associated with a known cancer syndrome.
- Family history of rare cancers.
- Known pathogenic variant in the family.
- Member of an ethnic group associated with increased risk of hereditary cancer (ie Ashkenazi Jewish heritage).

## Think Genomics!

For more information, please visit:

[www.england.nhs.uk/genomics](http://www.england.nhs.uk/genomics)

[www.medicalgenomicswales.co.uk](http://www.medicalgenomicswales.co.uk)

King, E., & Mahon, S.M. (2017). Genetic Testing: Challenges and Changes in testing for hereditary cancer syndromes. Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, 21(5), 589-598.

Mahon, S.M. (2020). Family Risk Factors May Indicate Need for Genetics Counselling Referrals. ONS Voice. <https://voice.ons.org/news-and-views/family-risk-factors-may-indicate-need-for-genetics-counselling-referrals>

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