

# Cancer and the Jewish Woman

**1 out of 40 Jewish women** carry a gene mutation that significantly increases their risk for breast and ovarian cancer. Ashkenazi\* Jewish women are 12.5 times more likely to carry a gene mutation that increases their risk for breast and ovarian cancer compared to non-Jewish women. A breast cancer gene mutation can significantly increase your lifetime risk for breast, ovarian, and other cancers.

## **BRCA1 and BRCA2 Genes**

» These genes are associated with the majority of hereditary breast and ovarian cancers. Certain hereditary mutations can cause cancers to run in the family.

» Mutations in these genes can increase the risk for breast, ovarian, and other types of cancer. Both men and women can carry mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes.

**Genetic Testing** (a blood test typically covered by most insurance plans)

» Testing for gene mutations is available but is not for everyone.

» Genetic testing is recommended if you or a family member have or have had:

- Breast cancer at any age
- Ovarian cancer at any age
- Breast cancer in both breasts at any age
- Breast and ovarian cancer in one woman
- Male breast cancer
- A family history of multiple family members with breast and/or ovarian cancer

214-645-HOPE (4673)

[utsouthwestern.org](http://utsouthwestern.org)

\*Eastern European

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UT Southwestern board-certified genetic counselors are available to help you understand hereditary cancer and provide you and your family with information about your cancer risk. Our goal is to assist individuals and their families in prevention and early detection by helping identify individuals with a known or suspected predisposition to cancer.

Most importantly, if you test positive for a gene mutation, you can take steps to lower your cancer risk, detect cancer at an earlier, more treatable stage, or even prevent cancer.

If you are concerned about the history of cancer in your family, contact our staff of genetic counselors.

For information or to make an appointment at one of our multiple locations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, please call:

- 214-645-HOPE (4673)
- toll free 866-460-HOPE



Simmons Cancer Center

**Simmons Cancer Center**

2201 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75390-9161

**Moncrief Cancer Institute**

1701 River Run, Suite 500, Fort Worth, TX 76104

**Methodist Richardson Cancer Center**

2805 E. President Bush Turnpike, Richardson, TX 75082