

Discover what your genes say about your health



NorthShore is offering our first 10,000 eligible adult patients complimentary* genetic testing, in partnership with Color, a leading genetics and health technology service. This test can help you and your doctor create a personalized screening and prevention plan to keep you healthy now and in the future.

Talk with your NorthShore doctor to get started.

Questions?

* Limited time offer, consent required, fees may apply to other services received, additional terms may apply.

Please contact 847-570-GENE (4363)

An opportunity to receive complimentary genetic testing

- As part of our ongoing commitment to provide you the very best and most advanced primary care, NorthShore has partnered with Color to offer you complimentary genetic testing for a limited time. This test will be made available to 10,000 eligible adult patients.
- This test provides valuable genetic insights about your risk for cancer and heart conditions, how your body might process certain medications, and information about ancestry and other traits.
- The results from this test can help your doctor develop a screening and prevention plan best tailored to you.
- A simple blood draw can be completed at any NorthShore lab location (northshore.com/labs) after receiving an order from your doctor and consenting on NorthShoreConnect.

What you'll learn



Cancer

A look at 30 genes to better guide a screening and prevention plan for breast, ovarian, uterine, colon, melanoma, pancreatic, stomach, and prostate cancers.



Heart

A look at 30 genes associated with genetic forms of heart disease, such as inherited high cholesterol, that may be managed differently from heart conditions without a genetic cause.



Medications

Analysis of genes associated with medication response that impact how the body may process certain medications.**

You also receive:



Discovery

On an ongoing basis, you will also receive genetic insights about yourself such as ancestry, lactose intolerance, and caffeine metabolism.

**Do not change or stop taking any medicine based on a genetic test report without consulting your healthcare provider. This test is not intended to inform you about your current state of health, including whether or not you should take a medication or how much you should take. This test does not diagnose any health conditions and is not a substitute for visiting your health care provider. Discuss the results of the genetic test with your healthcare provider, including whether the medication label includes information on how to use genetic information to determine dosage. Medicine should always be taken as prescribed by your healthcare provider.

Frequently asked questions

GENETIC TESTING

Why get genetic testing?

Your genes can help you understand whether you are at increased risk for certain health conditions and how your body might process certain medications.** In fact, 10 - 15% of most cancers are due to genetic variants, or changes, that are passed down through parents. Most cases of heart disease are due to a combination of lifestyle choices, but some are due to genetics. In addition, when you take a medication, your response is influenced by many factors including genetics. Knowing your genes allows you and your doctor to guide choices for health and prevention.

How do my results impact my family members?

Your results can help your family members understand their risk. If your results show that you could be at risk for any of the tested conditions, there is a 50% chance that each of your first-degree relatives could be at increased risk, too. Based on your results, NorthShore and Color genetic counselors will provide recommendations for testing family members.

MY RESULTS

How will I receive my results?

Once your blood sample is collected, an email will be sent explaining how to create a user account on Color's website.

Results are typically available in 3 - 4 weeks after you create your Color account. You will also receive an email from NorthShoreConnect when your clinical results are available, along with instructions on how to access them via NorthShoreConnect.

What types of results will I receive?

A positive result means you have a gene variant that puts you at increased risk of developing cancer or heart disease - it does not mean that you will definitely develop it. Your doctor can help you build a personalized screening plan based on national guidelines and recommendations related to your results.

A negative result means that no gene variants were found on this test. There are other factors that may increase your risk for cancer or heart disease based on personal or family history, or environmental factors. Please discuss any concerns with your doctor or a genetic counselor.

How do I access genetic counseling?

You will have the opportunity to discuss your results and screening and prevention recommendations with a genetic counselor from Color. A NorthShore Genomics Care Coordinator will also be available to assist with scheduling any next steps by calling 847-570-GENE (4363).

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

How is my privacy protected?

NorthShore and Color take your privacy very seriously. Your results will be integrated into your electronic medical record and are available only to you and your care team for review.

How it works



Complete online consent form

To participate in this complimentary program, you must schedule an appointment for a physical exam and complete a consent form via NorthShoreConnect that describes the genetic test, information about privacy practices, and your participation in this program.



Doctor order

Your doctor will place an order for this test during your appointment. You may ask any questions during this visit.



Simple blood draw

After your appointment, you will need to visit a NorthShore lab to have a blood sample collected. Visit northshore.org/labs to find a location near you.



Create your Color account

An email will be sent to you explaining how to create a user account on Color's website. Your Color account will allow you to track the status of your test, access genetic counselors, and learn more about your ancestry and traits.



Receive your results

Results are typically available in 3 - 4 weeks after you create your Color account. You will receive an email from NorthShoreConnect when your clinical results are available, along with instructions on how to access them via NorthShoreConnect.



Create a plan with your doctor

Based on your results, your doctor can help you build a personalized screening plan based on national guidelines and recommendations.

Peace of mind comes from being proactive about your health.



“It was nerve wracking at first to hear that I had the *BRCA1* mutation, but I haven't shown any signs of problems yet and now I have a plan in place going forward.”

- NorthShore patient Rebecca Marsalli, who met with a genetic counselor at NorthShore's Mark R. Neaman Center for Personalized Medicine to go over her results. The consultation led to a referral and appointment with Medical Oncologist Allison DePersia, MD, who specializes in caring for high-risk patients with genetic mutations.