OVARIAN CANCER AUSTRALIA

WEBINAR

Genetics & Family History
Ovarian Cancer Australia Webinar Presenters

Kristin Young
Kristin Young has a BRCA 2 gene mutation, her whole family has been impacted by this discovery and she wants to increase awareness in the community so other women and their families get the chance to choose.

Assoc. Prof Alison Trainer
Assoc. Prof Alison Trainer is a clinical Geneticist with a specialist interest in Familial Cancer. She works at the Familial Cancer Centre, Peter Maccallum And Royal Melbourne Hospitals. Alison has a particular interest in how clinical services are offered to ensure that all women have access to the benefit from genetic testing.
The Genetics of Ovarian Cancer

Assoc. Prof Alison Trainer

FAMILIAL CANCER CENTRE, PETER MACCALLUM AND ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITALS

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There are different types of ovarian cancer

Most Cancer arise from the epithelium encasing the ovaries: Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

There is no screening to detected early ovarian lesions, risk reducing surgery is currently the only option

Around 1 in 100 Australian women develop ovarian cancer
Not all Ovarian cancers are the same
Types of epithelial ovarian cancer

Borderline cancers are not associated with a high genetic risk
Mucinous cancer are not associated with BRCA mutations
It is important to have pathology information to determine genetic risk
Genetic Testing

BRCA 1 and BRCA2 mutations: Found in 14 of 100 women with a high grade OC
- Half of these women have no family history
- Testing is only way to determine risk for relatives
- Also associated with a breast cancer risk

Mismatch repair genes: Found in less than 1 in 100 women with OC
- Also associated with a bowel and womb cancer risk

There are other genes which are less commonly found and these may be discussed with you
How is genetic testing done?

• Usually a blood test through a Familial Cancer Centre not GP
• Can be offered locally by Oncologist if cancer has relapsed
• Public funded testing is available if you have a high-risk ovarian cancer
• Self funding options available, if you are well but have a family history -$800 for BRCA1/2, the prices are dropping
Why Would I Want Genetic Testing??

Is this just research?

NO! Genetic testing is now an important part of the clinical care for both you and your relatives.

How will it help me, I already have ovarian cancer?

Knowing if you have a genetic mutation will help your specialist decide what treatment you need.

There are certain drugs, called PARP inhibitors, which can be used to treat BRCA-related Ovarian cancers. They are already available in certain circumstances and may be on the PBS relatively soon.
Why Would I Want Genetic Testing??

How will it help my relatives, can you do anything to help them?

YES! If you do have a genetic mutation, we can see if your unaffected relatives have inherited the same gene fault. This Test is free. It is called Predictive testing.

If they have the mutation, we can manage and reduce their cancer risks.

If they do not have the fault they are not at an increased risk and we will reduce their anxiety.

GENETIC TESTING CAN SAVE LIVES
What Should I do now?

1. If You Have Ovarian Cancer
   - ASK your Specialist to refer you to a Familial Cancer Clinic
   
   EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO OTHER FAMILY HISTORY OF CANCER AND ARE 120 YRS OLD!

   We want to meet you
   - Come and talk to us, You may want to just listen, or You may want to test
   
   Both are Okay, we know it is hard

2. If you have been told your cancer has relapsed
   - ASK your specialist to phone 1800 770 735
   - Testing can be arranged testing quickly and easily
What Should I do now?

3. If you have a family history of Ovarian cancer

◆ ASK your doctor to refer you to a Familial Cancer Clinic
◆ Bring as much information about your family history and pathology as you can

IF IN DOUBT PHONE US AND WE CAN HELP: WE LOVE TO TALK

All Familial Cancer Clinics details are on the Ovarian Cancer Australia website
Ovarian Cancer Australia

www.ovariancancer.net.au

OCA Support and Information Line

1300660334