

Pushing Beyond[®]

The decision to proceed with a genetic risk assessment for hereditary cancers is a very personal one. You can be assured that our staff appreciates the privacy and intimacy of the situation for each individual. Education on the process, its benefits and implications is available free of charge to anyone considering the procedure. Once results

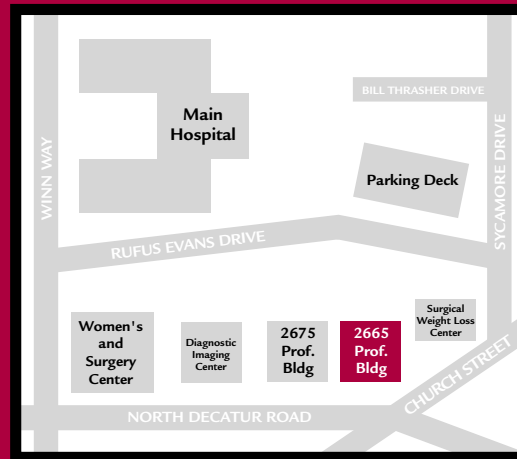
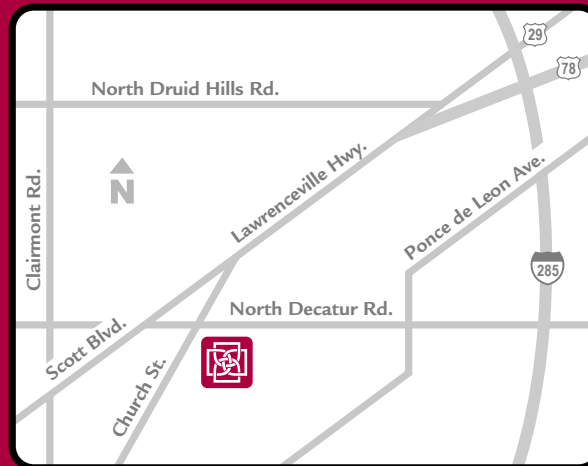
are obtained, each patient receives an individualized plan for follow-up care with his or her regular physician. All results remain confidential and are not reported to employers or insurance carriers.

If you are interested in learning more about genetic risk assessment at DeKalb Medical, simply call **404.501.EASY**.



Serving the community since 1961, DeKalb Medical is a not-for-profit hospital system that includes the 451-bed DeKalb Medical at North Decatur, the 76-bed DeKalb Medical at Downtown Decatur and the 100-bed DeKalb Medical at Hillandale in Lithonia. A leader in progressive medical technology delivered by a highly qualified and caring staff, the hospital system serves approximately 500,000 patients annually and offers a variety of community outreach programs.

DeKalb Medical's Genetic Risk Assessment Program is located in the 2665 Professional Building on the DeKalb Medical North Decatur campus.



DeKalb Medical Cancer Center

www.dekalbmedical.org | 404.501.EASY

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GENETIC RISK ASSESSMENT

DeKalb Medical

Genetic Risk Assessment



Assessing Your Risk for Cancer

It is estimated that one in three individuals in the U.S. will be diagnosed with some type of cancer. In most cases, cancer risks increase with age, as well as with exposure to cancer-causing factors in the environment. Some lifestyle choices can also increase your risk, such as tobacco and alcohol use, diet and exposure to the sun. However, an estimated five to 10 percent of cancers can be attributed to genetic changes (mutations) on specific cancer predisposing genes. A genetic risk assessment will allow you to find out if you and possibly your family members have a higher risk of developing certain cancers.

What Actions Would I Take If the Genetic Test Results Show That I May Be at an Increased Risk for Certain Types of Cancer?

- Lifestyle changes
- Earlier and more frequent screening for cancer
- Risk-reducing medications or surgery may be considered
- Treatment plans for cancer patients may be modified

For more information on the genetic risk assessment program at DeKalb Medical, call **404.501.EASY**.

Genetic risk assessment can provide you with knowledge, power and hope for the future.

Who Should Consider Genetic Risk Assessment?



There are certain factors that can put you at higher risk for cancer. If you or your family meets any of these criteria, you may want to consider having a genetic risk assessment:

- A cancer diagnosis under the age of 50
- More than two cases of cancer in the family, especially if at least one occurred before age 50
- A rare cancer diagnosis (i.e., male breast cancer)
- History of multiple cancers in the same family member
- Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry with a family or personal history of breast or ovarian cancer
- Above average number of colon polyps
- Having a known genetic mutation in a close family member

What is Included in a Genetic Risk Assessment?

A genetic risk assessment includes:

- Evaluation of your personal and family history of cancer
- A DNA blood test, if appropriate
- A post-test follow-up visit
- A detailed and personal plan to make appropriate screening, prevention and lifestyle management decisions
- Immediate access to all DeKalb Medical Cancer Center services

How Much Will It Cost?

Genetic testing can be expensive, but the good news is that most insurance carriers, including Medicare, will cover the cost if you meet certain criteria. Our staff will handle all necessary pre-certifications to allow you to access your insurance benefits fully. There is no charge for the informational office visit and post-test follow-up.

In most cases, test results will be available in three to four weeks.