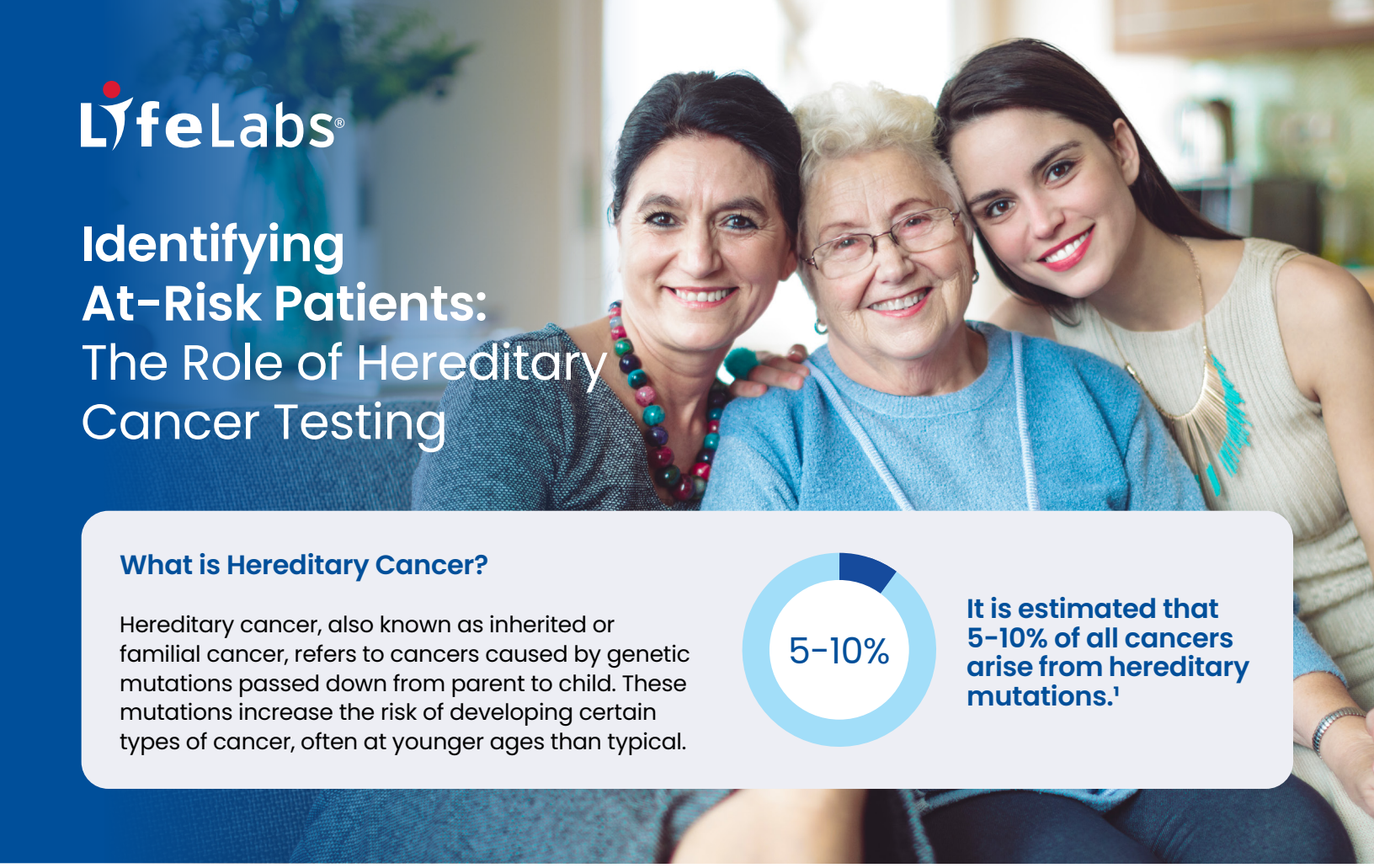

Identifying At-Risk Patients: The Role of Hereditary Cancer Testing

What is Hereditary Cancer?

Hereditary cancer, also known as inherited or familial cancer, refers to cancers caused by genetic mutations passed down from parent to child. These mutations increase the risk of developing certain types of cancer, often at younger ages than typical.

It is estimated that 5-10% of all cancers arise from hereditary mutations.[1]

When to consider the Hereditary Cancer Panel for your patient?

The test is recommended for patients with:

- Cancer diagnosed at age 50 or younger
- Male breast cancer at any age
- Multiple primary cancers
- Two or more relatives with the same cancer or patterns of cancers (e.g. breast or ovarian), one underage of 50
- Triple negative breast cancer at age 60 or younger
- Three or more relatives with similar or patterns of cancers, likely in more than one generation on one side of the family
- Ovarian cancer, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer at any age
- Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry with history of breast, ovarian or pancreatic cancer
- A previously identified hereditary cancer mutation in the family
- Multiple colon polyps (10-100+)
- Atypical tumor pathology (e.g. colon cancer IHC deficient, MSI-H)

The test is particularly useful for patients who are at high risk due to family history or genetic predisposition. It is also beneficial for those seeking to understand their cancer risk proactively.[2,3]

Testing Details

The Hereditary Cancer Panel is an 84-gene panel test that assesses the risk of hereditary cancers, including breast, GI, gynecological, and other cancers. The test has:

- **Sensitivity and Specificity:** >99%
- **Sample Types:** Blood
- **Genetic Counselling:** pre- and post-test genetic counselling is included to ensure patients understand their results and next steps.
- **Results Turnaround Time:** 4-6 weeks after the sample is received.
- **Results Delivery:** Results will be sent directly to you, the ordering provider. Patients will also receive results during their post-test counselling session.

Genes Covered

The test covers 84 genes associated with hereditary cancers

How to Order the Test

1. **Review Patient History to Identify At-Risk Patients:**
   Evaluate your patient's personal or family health history to determine if genetic testing such as the Hereditary Cancer Panel is right for them.
2. **Complete and Sign the Requisition Form:**
   Patients have two options for how the test is ordered and paid for:
   Option 1: The patient purchases the test online and will receive a requisition form via email. Your role is to review and sign this form to authorize the test.
   Option 2: The patient downloads a blank requisition form. After reviewing their case, you sign the form, and they pay for the test at their LifeLabs appointment.

   Download requisition form
3. **Guide Sample Collection:**
   Once you have signed the requisition, advise the patient to book an appointment at a LifeLabs location for a blood draw. No fasting or special preparation is typically required.
4. **Follow-Up Care:**
   Based on the results, collaborate with genetics professionals as needed to determine next steps, which may include surveillance, preventive measures, or referrals to specialists.

For more information, please contact our client-care specialists at 1-844-363-4357

The ordering healthcare provider may alternatively consider referring a patient to a local cancer genetics clinic, which can be found through https://www.cagc-accg.ca. Provincial Ministry of Health funding in Canada for genetic testing relating to inherited cancer syndromes and counselling may be available for individuals with a personal and/or family history of cancer that meets high risk criteria.

References:
1. Canadian Cancer Society. Cancer Risk in Families. https://cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/what-is-cancer/genes-and-cancer/cancer-risk-in-families
2. Cancer Care Ontario. Hereditary Cancer Testing Eligibility Criteria. | Cancer Care Ontario
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. https://www.nccn.org/guidelines

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