BRCAl/BRCAl2 (Selected Variants)

Single nucleotide variations in BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes can be associated with an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancer, and other cancers. These genes are important in the regulation of cell growth and repair of damaged DNA. The presence of certain BRCA variants can influence the development of these cancers, making it important for individuals to be aware of their BRCA status.

To use this resource:

1. **How to Use This Test**
   - Instructions on how to use the BRCA1 and BRCA2 test for breast and ovarian cancer risk.
   - Information on the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, including their functions and importance in cancer risk.

2. **About BRCAl/BRCAl2 (Selected Variants)**
   - Brief overview of BRCA1 and BRCA2, including their role in cancer risk.
   - Discussion of the importance of BRCA testing for individuals at high risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

3. **We could not determine***
   - Explanation of why some test results may be inconclusive or uncertain.
   - Guidance on how to interpret uncertain test results.

4. **Lifestyle, family history, and other factors can influence***
   - Information on how lifestyle, family history, and other factors can affect cancer risk.
   - Discussion of strategies for reducing cancer risk.

5. **Learn more about***
   - Additional resources and information on BRCA1 and BRCA2-related cancers.
   - Links to further reading and support resources.

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*NB: Certain fields may require input or selection of specific options to complete the test.*
Frequently Asked Questions

Specific genetic variants in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes are associated with an increased risk of developing certain cancers, including breast cancer (in women and men) and ovarian cancer. These variants may also be associated with an increased risk for prostate cancer and certain other cancers. This test includes three genetic variants in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes that are most common in people of Ashkenazi Jewish descent.

**BRCA1/BRCA2 (Selected Variants)**

- **What does this test do?**
- **What does this test not do?**
- The report says the variants included in this test are most common in people of Ashkenazi Jewish descent. What if I'm not of Ashkenazi Jewish descent?
- Where can I learn more about cancer, support groups, and other resources?
- My report says my result could not be determined. What does this mean?

This means we could not tell if you have or do not have the three genetic variants we tested. This can be caused by random test error or other factors that interfere with the test.

It is still possible that you have one of these three variants, or another variant associated with an increased risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. In the general population, about 1 in 8 women develops breast cancer during her lifetime, and 1 in 80 develops ovarian cancer. Women with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 variant have a greatly increased risk of developing these cancers.

Other factors can also affect your risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer, even if you do not have any genetic variants. Learn more about other factors.

**What does it mean if the result for a variant could not be determined?**

This means we could not tell if you have or do not have the tested genetic variant. This can be caused by random test error or other factors that interfere with the test.

**My report says my result could not be determined, but I have a personal or family history of breast or ovarian cancer. What does this mean for me?**

Women with a family history of breast or ovarian cancer have a higher risk of developing these cancers themselves. We could not determine whether you have the three tested variants, so we can't tell you whether these variants are contributing to your family history.

There are more than 1,000 variants in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes associated with a greatly increased risk for breast and ovarian cancer. Our test only includes three of those variants. Variants in other genes have also been linked to hereditary breast and ovarian cancer, and non-genetic factors also influence a woman's risk of developing these cancers. Learn more about other factors.

It is important to discuss your personal or family history of cancer with a healthcare professional, who can help you determine if additional genetic testing is appropriate. Genetic counseling can also help you understand your results and your options for additional testing. Learn more about genetic counseling.

**My report says my result could not be determined. What are some things I could do?**

Because we could not determine your result, it is still possible to have one of the genetic variants tested or another genetic variant not tested. So your result doesn’t give you any new information about your risk for breast and ovarian cancer.

There are many other genetic and non-genetic factors that can affect your risk, which this test does not take into account. Learn more about other factors.

It is important to continue with any cancer screenings your healthcare provider recommends. Learn more about cancer screening.

Talk to a healthcare professional if:

- You have a personal or family history of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, or any other type of cancer.
- You think you might have breast cancer, ovarian cancer, or any other type of cancer.
- You have questions about other risk factors you may have.

Have more questions? Check out our Customer Care Help Center.