

# GENOMIC TESTING FACTS

September 30 is #RareCancerDay

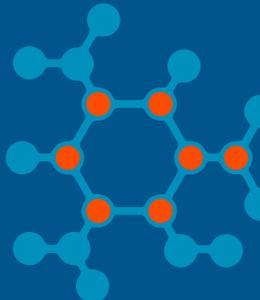
## WHAT IS GENOMIC TESTING AND ITS PURPOSE?

Genomic testing is performed on tumor tissue or through a blood sample and can identify biomarkers that sometimes allow doctors to recommend certain treatments that target a specific type of cancer. This targeting can also prevent normal cells from being harmed by therapy and reduce side effects.<sup>1</sup>



## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENOMIC TESTING AND GENETIC TESTING?

Genomic testing checks your tumor cells for biomarkers. Genetic testing is done using a sample of blood, urine, saliva, hair, amniotic or other body fluid, to test for inherited mutations from your parents that could increase your risk for certain types of cancer.<sup>2</sup>



## HOW DO I KNOW IF I NEED GENOMIC TESTING?

If you have been diagnosed with cancer, it is recommended that you to talk to your oncologist about genomic testing.<sup>3</sup>



## HOW CAN GENOMIC TESTING INFORM A TREATMENT PLAN FOR A RARE CANCER?

Knowing which biomarkers are driving a patient's tumor growth could open the door to personalized treatment options, including access to clinical trials that may give patients the chance to live well and longer.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Understanding Genomics and Cancer: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. <https://blog.dana-farber.org/insight/2014/04/understanding-genomics-and-cancer/>. Published April 25, 2014. Accessed August 18, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> For Cancer Patients, Biomarkers Matter. Mutations Matter: <https://cholangiocarcinoma.org/mutationsmatter/biomarkers-matter/biomarkers-matter-for-cancer-patients/>. Accessed August 18, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> What is Genomic Testing?: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. <https://blog.dana-farber.org/insight/2018/11/what-is-genomic-testing/>. Published November 1, 2018. Accessed August 18, 2020.

<sup>4</sup> For Cholangiocarcinoma, Biomarkers Matter. Mutations Matter: <https://cholangiocarcinoma.org/mutationsmatter/biomarkers-matter/biomarkers-matter-for-cholangiocarcinoma/>. Accessed August 18, 2020.