WHAT IS THE BRCA GENE?
BRCA stands for the BReast CAncer gene. You have two BRCA genes - one from your mother and one from your father - which help the body prevent breast cancer.

BRCA genes do not cause cancer. These genes play a big role in preventing breast cancer. They help repair DNA breaks that can lead to cancer.

1 in 500 women in the US has either a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation.

WHY IS BRCA IMPORTANT?
50% of women with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation will develop breast cancer by the time they turn 70 years old.

Up to 25% of hereditary breast cancer cases are a result of BRCA mutations.

While breast cancer is less common in young women, young women are more likely to develop hereditary breast cancer.

47% of women with BRCA- mutations often have no relevant family history of cancer.

UNDERSTAND YOUR RISK:
By understanding your risk of developing hereditary breast cancer you empower yourself to chose the right treatment path.

Learning about your family history can help you take preventative and proactive measures in reducing your risk of breast cancer.

Having the BRCA mutation doesn’t just mean you have a chance of developing breast cancer, it also increases your risk of other cancers.

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WHAT COULD PUT YOU AT HIGH RISK?

- You or any family member have had breast cancer before age 50
- You or any family member have had ovarian cancer
- Multiple relatives have had breast cancer
- A family member has a known BRCA mutation

SCREENING OPTIONS:

Tumor Testing -
This type of testing can be done as early as during surgery. Tumor testing can also increase your odds of identifying the mutation by almost 65% compared to DNA testing alone, as it identifies both inherited and acquired BRCA mutations.

Blood or Saliva Testing -
This form of testing uses DNA to identify inherited BRCA mutations. If you have a positive tumor test, you may receive a blood or saliva test to see if it is inherited or not. This helps determine your family's cancer risk and your future treatment options.

CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR:

If you are interested in learning more about whether you have a BRCA mutation, or how you can get tested, talk with your doctor about the options right for you.