

This information sheet will help you learn about Personal Genomic Risk Results, a category of results that you can learn about through genomic screening.

Words underlined are explained more in the genomic terms sheet.

Personal Genomic Risk

Personal risk of developing a genetic condition



Personal genomic risk results will tell you about your own chance of developing a genetic condition.

If you choose to learn about these types of results, it will tell you if you are increased risk to develop any of the specific genetic conditions included in the screened.

The results cannot tell you with certainty if or when you will develop symptoms of the condition identified.



The results cannot tell you about your risk for a genetic condition with certainty because the same genetic condition may cause severe symptoms in one person, mild symptoms in another and no symptoms in the third.

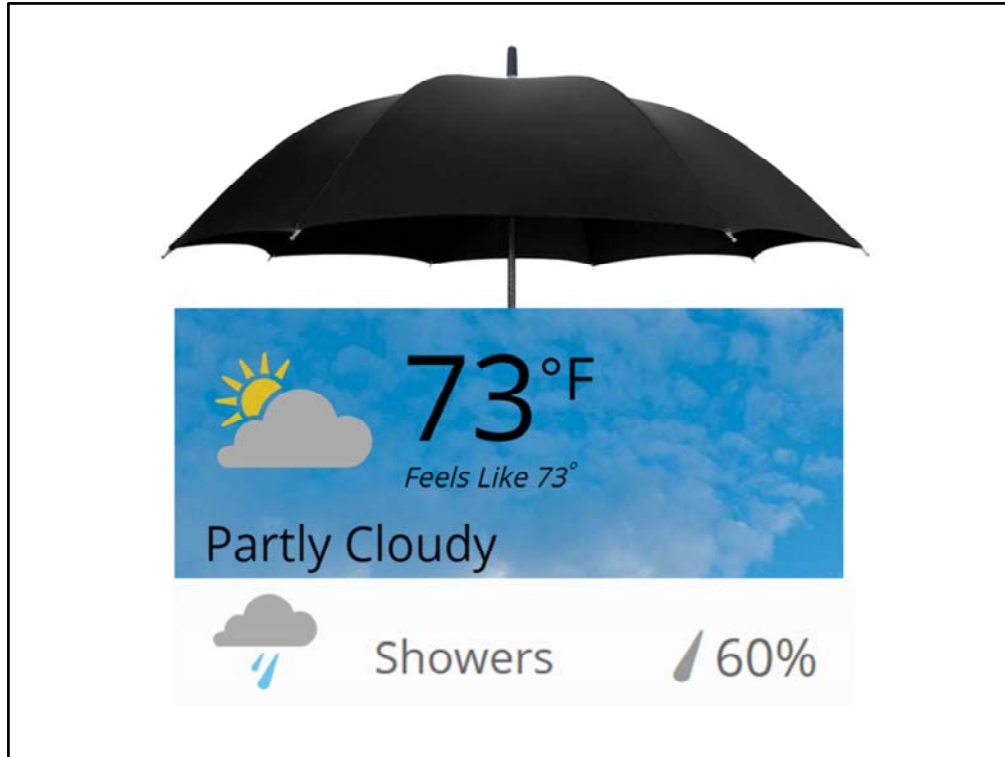
Even family members with the same genetic condition may have different severity of symptoms.



The age a person develops symptoms can also vary. A genetic condition may cause symptoms in childhood or cause symptoms in early or late adulthood.



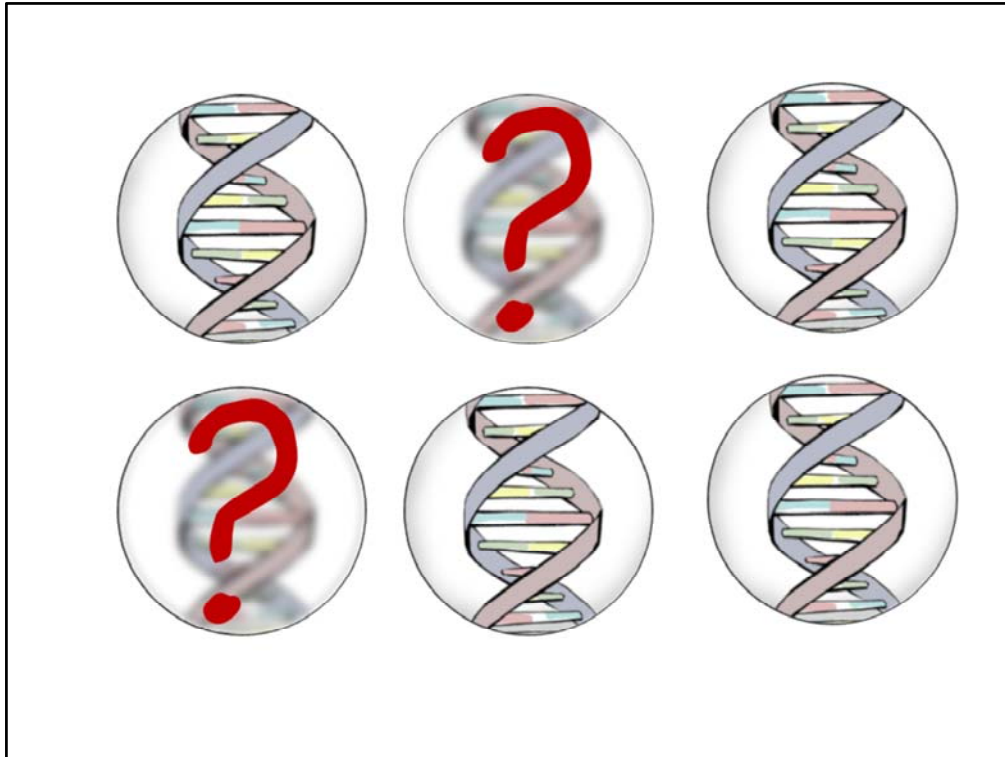
The presence of a genetic mutation does not mean that an individual is certain to develop the genetic condition. Rather, the presence of a genetic mutation increases a person's risk of developing the condition.



Learning about your risk for a genetic condition through genomic screening is a bit like a weather report. If there is a 60% chance of rain, this does not tell you that it will rain for sure, but it may still provide useful information. You may want to bring an umbrella.

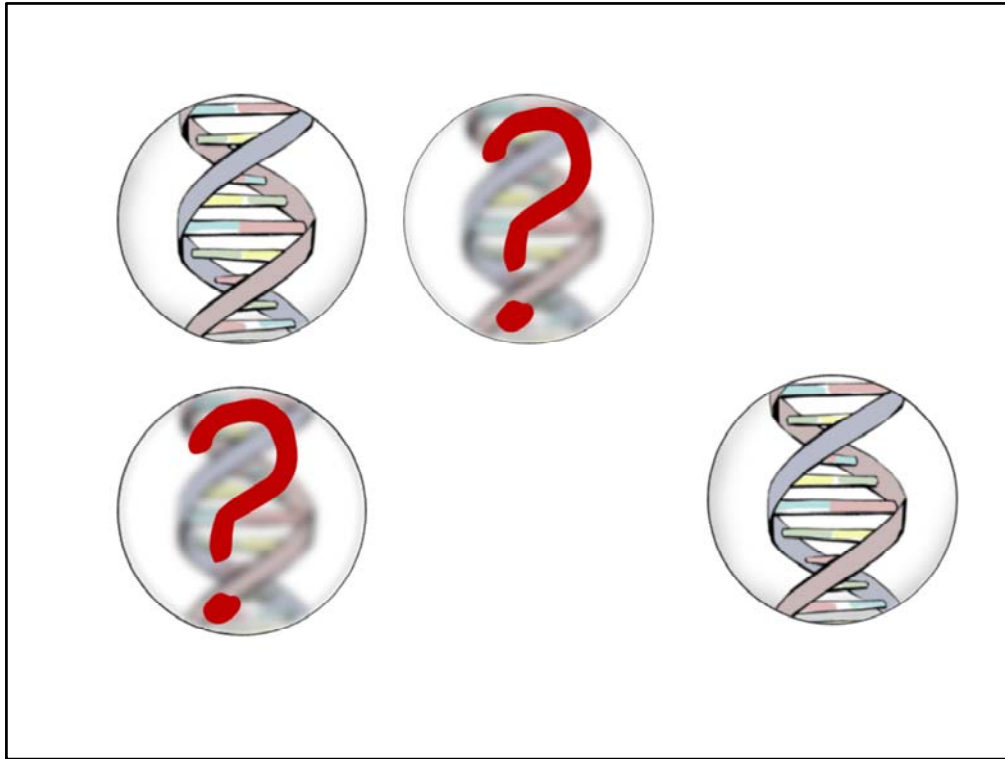


While it's possible to screen for some genetic mutations that increase a risk for a genetic condition, there are other factors including diet or what you eat or how much you exercise and other ways you take care of your health such as not smoking.

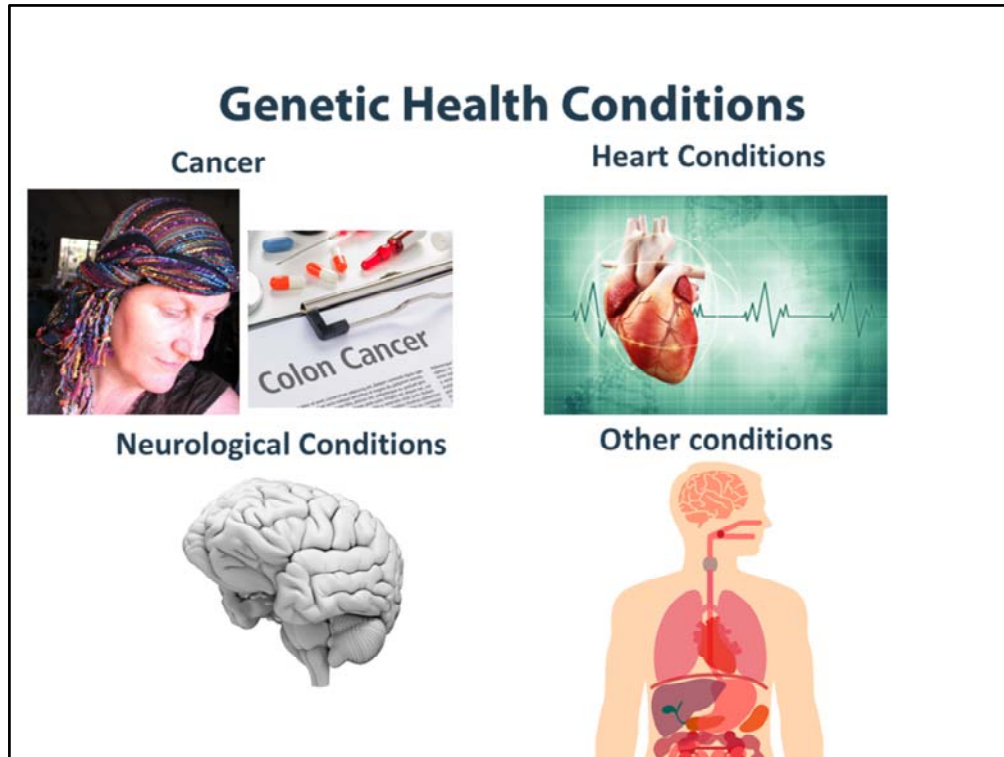


There are also other genetic variants that affect a person's risk of developing a health condition.

Doctors and researchers do not yet fully understand these other genetic variants and therefore there is no test for them.



Depending on the genomic screen, there may be some genetic conditions that are not included in the screening and therefore a person will not learn about the risk for these conditions because they are not included on the screen.



Genomic Screening can screen for common genetic mutations associated with several forms of cancer, a number of heart conditions, and certain neurological conditions. In addition to these, we can screen for a number of rare conditions that affect different parts of the body. Please explore the study website for more information on the genetic conditions that you could learn about on the personal genomic risk screen.



Genetic conditions vary considerably in terms of availability of prevention and treatment. Some may have good prevention or treatment, while others currently do not good treatment options that work for everyone. Others still may not currently be preventable nor treatable. You may find it useful to think about the genetic conditions in this way as you think about which test results you want to learn about.



Genomic screening may provide information
about personal genetic risks
Prevention and treatment options vary

In summary, the personal genomic risk screen may tell you about your own personal risk to develop a genetic condition. A genetic mutation increases your risk to a genetic condition, but it is not certain that you will develop the condition. Remember too that not all conditions are preventable or treatable. Finally, your test results may affect your children, future children, and other family members.

We understand this is complex information. If you'd like to discuss this information with a genetic expert, please click on the option on the website or

Email: jw2500@columbia.edu

Call: (212) 305-6987

The following Information Sheets or Videos may also be helpful

- Introduction to Genetics
- Carrier Screening
- Pharmacogenetics
- Possible Genomic Screening Results