



Genetic Counseling Appointment Guide

What is genetic COUNSELING vs. genetic TESTING?

Genetic counseling is an appointment with a genetic counselor to assess you and your family's cancer risks, discuss genetic testing options, obtain informed consent for testing, interpret your genetic testing results, and utilize all of this information to determine a management/screening plan to manage your cancer risks.

Genetic testing is a blood/saliva test that can show if you inherited an abnormal gene (mutation) that increases your risks for certain cancers, which can be relevant for both you and family members.

How should I prepare for my genetic counseling appointment?

You will receive a welcome packet by email or regular mail after you schedule your appointment. In this packet, there is a medical/family history questionnaire, which you must complete and submit before your appointment. This information is needed for us to prepare for your appointment and determine which genetic test is appropriate for you. If there are questions you cannot answer, please feel free to leave them blank and we will work with the information we have.

Please send a copy of any previous genetic testing results for you or your family members before your appointment for us to review. This information is important to determine which genetic test is appropriate for you.

Please send your family history questionnaire and/or prior genetic testing results to one of the following (*you will be seen at the clinic location you were scheduled for, not at this office*):

Email: RMCCGeneticCounseling@usoncology.com

Mail: Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers – Genetic Counseling Department, 7951 E. Maplewood Ave. #350, Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Fax: 303-930-8060

What can I expect at my genetic counseling appointment?

The initial appointment takes approximately one hour. Usually, you can have your blood drawn for testing the same day as your appointment.

Test results are typically completed within one month and will be communicated to you at a follow-up appointment that takes approximately a half-hour. There are certain circumstances when genetic testing results can affect treatment/surgery decisions and may need to be communicated by phone followed by an in-person appointment.

Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers Genetic Counseling | Phone: 303-930-7872



What is the cost of a genetic counseling appointment?

- If you are already a patient at any of our clinics, see row #1 (Current RMCC Patients).
- If you are not a patient at any of our clinics yet, see row #2 (New RMCC Patients).

	United Health Care, Cigna, Aetna, Rocky Mountain Health Plan	Medicare, Medicaid, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Tricare, PHP Prime, Humana, All Other Insurances	Uninsured & Self-Pay
Current RMCC Patients	Your genetic counseling consult will be billed the same way as an office visit with your oncologist.	<p>Medicare: Your genetic counseling consult will be billed the same way as an office visit with your oncologist.</p> <p>Medicaid: You will not receive a bill for genetic counseling.</p> <p>Other Insurances: Most insurances cover genetic counseling. However, each plan is different. We suggest calling your insurance with billing code CPT 96040 to obtain information about coverage.</p>	If you are uninsured/self-pay, costs for the appointments are: \$75.25-\$150.50.
New RMCC Patients	Most insurances cover genetic counseling. However, each plan is different. We suggest calling your insurance with billing code CPT 96040 to obtain information about coverage.	<p>We have experienced denials from Medicare, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Tricare, PHP Prime, and Humana. If denied, costs for the appointment are: \$75.25-\$150.50.</p> <p>Medicaid: You will not receive a bill for genetic counseling.</p>	If you are uninsured/self-pay, costs for the appointments are: \$75.25-\$150.50.

If you have questions about a bill you receive for your genetic counseling appointment, please call the number listed on your bill.

What is the cost of genetic testing (lab work)? This will be further discussed at your appointment as it is dependent on your personal/family history, insurance type, laboratory, genes ordered, and many other factors. Many insurance companies cover the cost of genetic testing when certain medical/family history criteria are met. Prior authorization is often required and completed by the genetic testing lab when they receive your sample. Most people pay between \$0 and \$100, and the lab will contact you if the cost to you will be more than \$100. If your insurance company denies testing or you are uninsured, there are self-pay options available at a reduced price (ex. \$250), or you can choose to cancel testing at no additional cost.

Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers Genetic Counseling | Phone: 303-930-7872