

## Receiving a normal BRCA1 and BRCA2 test result

### Information sheet for patients with cancer

You have had a BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene test because you have had cancer.

**The test result is normal.**

**No BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation (gene change) was identified in your blood sample.**

#### What does this result mean for me?

This means we have not found a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation which would put you at high risk of developing another cancer. The cancer team will discuss if this normal result has any implications for your cancer management.

A normal result is common. In most women with breast and/or ovarian cancer no mutation in BRCA1 or BRCA2 is found. If you have a strong family history of breast and/or ovarian cancer, or a strong family history of other cancers, or if you developed cancer at an unusually young age, it may be helpful to look into things further. The genetics or cancer team will discuss this with you, if appropriate.

Very occasionally, mutations in other genes can be involved in causing breast or ovarian cancer. Also new discoveries are being made all the time. If a new gene test becomes available, the genetics team may be able to do the test using the sample you have already provided and they will send the result to you and your cancer team.

#### What does this result mean for my relatives?

This result is good news for your relatives, as it means they are unlikely to be at high increased risk of developing breast and/or ovarian cancer themselves. You may wish to share this result with them.

All women are eligible to have mammograms from 47 years of age in the National Breast Screening Programme. Depending on the family history, some women may be eligible for mammograms from 40 years old, even if there has been a normal BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene test in the family. There is currently no known effective form of ovarian screening. If a woman has multiple relatives with ovarian cancer, removal of the ovaries is sometimes considered.

If any of your relatives wish to discuss their own risks of cancer further they should speak with their GP who can refer them for further discussions at a Family History or Genetics clinic.

If you have any further questions, please contact The Royal Marsden Cancer Genetics Unit on 0208 661 3375 or [cancergenetics@rmh.nhs.uk](mailto:cancergenetics@rmh.nhs.uk)

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