The ROYAL MARSDEN
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient information

Receiving a genetic test result that identifies a variant of uncertain significance in a breast cancer gene (R208)

You had a genetic test to look at seven genes that can cause hereditary breast cancer: BRCA1, BRCA2, PALB2, ATM, CHEK2, RAD51C and RAD51D.

A variant of uncertain significance was detected in one of the genes.

The exact details of the gene and the variant are in the test report.

What does this result mean for me?

A variant of uncertain significance (VUS) is reported when a variant is identified but we do not know if it is harmless or increases your cancer risk. Most VUSs are likely to be harmless. An appointment has been made for you in the genetics clinic to discuss the result and answer your questions. Your breast cancer team will have access to the report through your digital health record.

What does this result mean for my relatives?

This result does not have any implications for your relatives now. If in the future the laboratory informed us that the variant has been reclassified as harmful, we would contact you to discuss the implications for you and for your family.

Good to know

If you need to discuss anything urgently prior to your appointment, or wish to change the date of your appointment, please contact The Royal Marsden Cancer Genetics Unit on 0208 661 3375.

Revised: November 2022 Planned review: November 2023