

BRCA2 Fact Sheet

	Cancer type	Average lifetime risk	Risk by age 70 with <i>BRCA2</i> variant*
Cancer Risk Estimates	Female breast	12%	38 – 84%
	Male breast	<0.1%	up to 8.9%
	Ovarian	1 – 2%	16 – 27%
	Prostate	11%	15 – 20%
	Pancreatic	<1%	2 – 7%
	Melanoma (cutaneous /ocular)	1.6%	Elevated

*Risk estimates are from GeneReviews, and may vary amongst different studies.

Medical Recommendations

Medical recommendations for early detection and prevention of cancer include:

Female breast:

- Breast self-exam starting at age 18
- Clinical breast exam starting at age 25, every 6–12 months
- Annual breast MRI with contrast starting at age 25
- Annual breast MRI with contrast and mammography starting at age 30
- Consideration of risk-reducing mastectomy
- Options for breast cancer risk-reduction medications like tamoxifen

Male breast: Breast self-exam and clinical breast exam starting at age 35

Ovarian:

- Risk-reducing removal of ovaries and fallopian tubes (salpingo-oophorectomy) is recommended, typically by age 35–40 and upon completion of childbearing
- Transvaginal ultrasound and CA-125 testing starting at age 30–35
- Options for ovarian cancer risk-reduction medications like birth control pills

Prostate: Prostate cancer screening starting at age 45, including annual digital rectal examination and PSA testing.

Pancreatic: There are no specific recommendations. Screening should be individualized based on your family history of pancreatic cancer.

Melanoma: Skin exam by a dermatologist

Recommendations may be individualized based on your personal and family history of these cancer types. Speak to your doctor about what options are right for you.

For More Information

- General information and support resources: www.facingourrisk.org
- Genetic Information Nondiscrimination: www.ginahelp.org
- Find a Genetic Counselor: www.nsgc.org/page/find-a-gc-search