



## Clinic Personnel

Gail H. Vance, MD - Director  
*Professor*  
*Medical and Molecular Genetics*

Wilfredo Torres, MD  
*Clinical Associate Professor*  
*Medical and Molecular Genetics*

Syed-Adel Zaidi, MD  
*Clinical Assistant Professor*  
*Medical and Molecular Genetics*

Cindy Hunter, MS, CGC - Clinic Coordinator  
*Genetic Counselor, certified*

Jessica Claybrook, MS  
*Genetic Counselor*

**To make an appointment**  
call (317) 274-3060

**Clinic Hours**  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings  
*Additional hours available on Thursdays at Clarian North Medical Center for breast cancer-related appointments only. Call (317) 688-5155.*

Indiana Familial Cancer Clinic  
Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics  
Indiana University Medical Center  
975 West Walnut St. Room 130  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

[www.iupui.edu/~medgen/ifcp](http://www.iupui.edu/~medgen/ifcp)

Information for Patients and Physicians



# Indiana Familial Cancer Clinic

Indiana University School  
of Medicine  
Department of Medical and  
Molecular Genetics

## purpose of the Indiana Familial Cancer Clinic

PROVIDE INFORMATION ON GENETIC  
CAUSES OF CANCER AND PATTERNS  
OF INHERITED CANCER

ASSESS WHETHER CANCER IN THE  
FAMILY IS LIKELY TO BE INHERITED

ESTIMATE RISK FOR HEALTHY FAMILY  
MEMBERS

MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
MEDICAL SCREENING

OBTAIN INFORMED CONSENT AND CONDUCT  
GENETIC TESTING, IF APPROPRIATE

## When should you consider genetic evaluation and counseling?

The majority of cancer occurrences are not due to an inherited genetic mutation; therefore genetic evaluation and counseling is not typically recommended for most individuals diagnosed with cancer.

However, approximately 10 to 15 percent of cancer diagnoses are associated with inherited factors and in these cases genetic evaluation and counseling may be recommended.

Eligible individuals and families may have:

- Cancer diagnosed at an earlier age than usual
  - Multiple biological relatives with cancer
  - Biological relatives in two or more generations with cancer
  - An individual diagnosed with more than one primary cancer
  - Family members who have developed a rare or unusual cancer
  - Individuals with bilateral cancer of paired organs
- What is genetic testing?**
- Genetic testing is the use of laboratory tools to determine more precisely an individual's risk for developing cancer.

## Is genetic testing necessary?

Genetic testing is not always required. There are many situations in which it is not deemed necessary.

## What is genetic counseling?

Genetic counseling is provided by genetic counselors and medical geneticists. They translate technical and complicated genetic information so it is more easily understood and relevant to the family. They help individuals and family members understand how personal and/or family history is involved in some medical conditions, including cancer.

## What happens during a clinic appointment?

Plan to spend about one and a half to two hours at your first visit. Discussion at the appointment will include:

- Personal medical history
  - Family history with emphasis on cancer diagnoses in biological family members
  - How heredity and family history affects a family member's risk for developing cancer
  - Evaluation of whether or not the cancer in the family is inherited
  - Risk evaluation for developing cancer
  - Medical screening recommendations
  - Risks, benefits, and limitations of genetic testing
  - Coordination of genetic testing, if appropriate
- Additional sessions will be required if genetic testing is performed.

After your consultation and/or testing, a summary letter is sent to you and your physicians, as specified by you.

Please note all information discussed and any genetic test results are confidential and will not be released by this department without written consent, except in the case of a court order.

## Prior to the appointment

It is important to return the family history questionnaire at least two weeks before the appointment.

It is also extremely useful to document the cancer occurrences in your family before your appointment. You can do this by obtaining copies of pathology reports and/or by requesting death certificates. More information on documentation is available at [www.iupui.edu/~medgen/ifcp](http://www.iupui.edu/~medgen/ifcp) or by calling the clinic coordinator.

## Billing

Remember to bring your health insurance card with you. If your health plan requires a primary care physician to make a referral, please obtain this before your appointment.

Fees vary depending on the complexity of the session.