



# Potential for Free Genetic Testing for Pancreatic Cancer

## Historical advancements in precision medicine and cancer treatments

The Human Genome Project was completed in 2003, where researchers mapped the entire human genetic code. Dozens of diseases were subsequently connected to specific genes. This milestone led to a dramatic shift in the understanding of cancer and other diseases, and the promise of being able to better treat disease.

Since 2003, researchers have advanced the science to conduct genetic testing on tumors, searching for genetic alterations that can potentially be treated with a targeted therapy for that specific variation. Using a genetic profiling method to determine specific treatment options is referred to as *precision medicine*.

## Clinical trials

Some clinical trials test precision medicine-based investigational treatments for a variety of cancers with a specific genetic variation. Genetic testing helps researchers find people whose cancers fit the profiles needed for these trials.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Any investigational treatment first tested in a clinical trial is an experimental medicine that has not yet been approved for sale by any regulatory authority and has not been determined to be safe and effective for the purpose for which it is under investigation. Although genetic testing may help determine if your cancer fits the profile needed for a clinical trial, you should not take that as endorsement of any clinical trial, or as recommendation or suggestion that any clinical trial is suitable for you, or assume that you will be eligible for enrollment in any clinical trial.

## Are you a patient with pancreatic cancer?

You may be eligible for genetic testing (RNA/DNA sequencing) of your tumor, at no cost to you.



## Who can have the testing done?

If you fit the following criteria, you may be able to have the testing done:

- Diagnosed with a locally advanced/metastatic pancreatic adenocarcinoma.
- 60 years old or younger at the time of diagnosis.

Your physician can help you find out if you meet the requirements for this testing program.

**Merus**



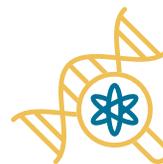
## Who is doing the testing?

Merus N.V., a biotechnology company, has entered into a collaboration with Caris Life Sciences who will analyze tumor samples using next-generation sequencing (NGS).



## What is the purpose of the testing?

To provide your physician with a full molecular profile of your tumor which may provide critical information to determine available treatment options.



## Why do people have genetic testing done?

In certain instances, NGS genetic testing can identify alterations in a tumor's DNA and RNA that may drive tumor growth. The results of genetic testing may help researchers and physicians predict more accurately which treatment strategies may be most effective or if a clinical trial may be available.

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## Information for your physician

Caris Life Sciences performs whole transcriptome sequencing of RNA and whole exome sequencing of DNA through:

- MI Transcriptome (WTS): RNA sequencing to detect gene fusions and variant transcripts
- MI Exome (WES): DNA sequencing to detect gene alterations (point mutations, Indels and copy number alterations)

Caris accepts the following tumor specimens for testing:

- Fresh tissue sample: Preserved with a neutral buffer formalin solution
- Unstained slides (USS): Unstained, unbaked 5 micron tissue sections on positively-charged glass slides
- Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) block

To perform RNA and DNA analysis, 25 slides (4-5 micron) with at least 20 mm<sup>2</sup> and with 20% tumor content are recommended.

Please refer to the Caris website ([www.carislifesciences.com](http://www.carislifesciences.com)) for additional details, including genes assessed.

To download a copy of this brochure or to complete a Genetic Testing Information Request Form, go to [nrg1.com/free-genomic-testing](http://nrg1.com/free-genomic-testing).

For more information about the companies collaborating to make this genetic testing available for certain pancreatic cancer patients:



Merus N.V.  
[www.merus.nl](http://www.merus.nl)



Caris Life Sciences  
[www.carislifesciences.com](http://www.carislifesciences.com)



## How is the testing done?

- A biopsy is taken of your tumor to get samples of the cancer cells. Your physician can explain the biopsy process to you.
- Samples from the biopsy are sent to a lab, where the genome of the cancer cells is sequenced.
- The sequence is scanned to identify alterations.
- Identified alterations are analyzed to see if they match known mutations.
- Your physician will then determine if there are any suitable approved therapies or clinical trials that may benefit your specific tumor type.



## How can I request this testing?

Your physician must request the testing for you, after discussing it with you and after you provide your written informed consent. To get the process started, you can:

- Bring this brochure to your physician and discuss your options for testing and if this option is right for you.

OR

- Complete the Genetic Testing Information Request Form found on the webpage where this brochure is located:  
[nrg1.com/free-genomic-testing](http://nrg1.com/free-genomic-testing)

Please note that this testing is being offered for a limited time, and Merus reserves the right to discontinue this testing program at any time.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Please also be advised that knowledge about the impact of genetic alterations is constantly changing. As a result, the significance of certain mutations or variations observed or whether anything can be done to address those mutations or variations may not yet be understood. As a result, physicians may have different opinions about what the test results mean and what treatment should be provided in light of the test results. The testing does not examine every possible mutation or variant that may exist and the technology may not identify all mutations related to your cancer. There is also a small possibility of testing errors. You may learn medical information about yourself that you did not expect, including the learning of additional diagnoses or a change in your condition, which may or may not be treatable and may make you upset or cause distress. It is possible that the test will not reveal the cause of your disease or help identify possible treatments. Because genetic information is involved, it is possible that the results of the test could impact your ability to obtain life, disability or long-term care insurance.