

Promise.

The PROMISE Connection

JANUARY 2025

2025

The PROMISE Registry Team wishes you a healthy and Happy New Year!

The Doctor is In

Does having the BRCA2 mutation along with H. pylori infection increase the risk of gastric cancer?

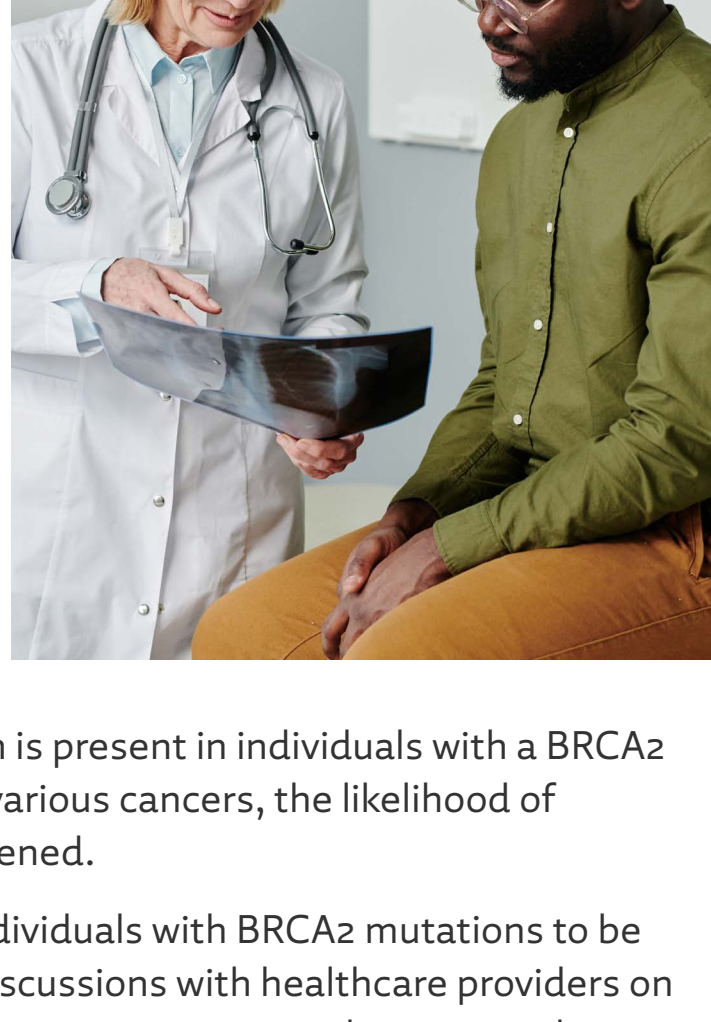
Recent research indicates people with BRCA2 mutations may have an elevated risk for stomach cancer. Another risk factor for stomach cancer is having an H. pylori infection. The combination of these genetic and environmental factors increases the risk more than either factor alone.

H. pylori is a bacterium that damages the stomach lining, leading to inflammation and ulcers. Persistent H. pylori infection can eventually cause stomach cancer. When this infection is present in individuals with a BRCA2 mutation who are already predisposed to various cancers, the likelihood of developing gastric cancer is further heightened.

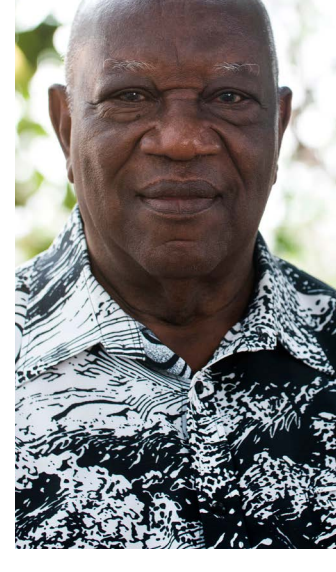
Given this increased risk, it is crucial for individuals with BRCA2 mutations to be regularly checked for H. pylori infection. Discussions with healthcare providers on how to identify and treat H. pylori infections are one way to reduce stomach cancer.

- Justin Lorentz, PROMISE Genetic Counselor

Have a question? PROMISE researchers Drs. Channing Paller and Heather Cheng, and Genetic Counselor Justin Lorentz are here to help. Feel free to email your questions to pcctcpromise@mskcc.org. While we may not be able to respond to every individual query, we'll gather common themes and provide answers.



Prostate Cancer in the News



6 rare risk factors for prostate cancer in Black men

Health IQ Digital reports that recent studies have revealed specific genetic variants more prevalent in men of African descent that may increase susceptibility to aggressive forms of prostate cancer. These genetic markers, often understudied in traditional research, could hold keys to understanding why Black men face higher risks of developing the disease.

Health experts recommend genetic testing for those with family histories of prostate cancer, as it can provide valuable insights into inherited risks and help develop personalized prevention strategies. [Learn more.](#)



Researchers find new way to 'starve' prostate cancer tumors at the cellular level

New research by a team of Indiana University School of Medicine scientists and their collaborators has uncovered a novel vulnerability in prostate cancer animal models that starves prostate tumors of critical nutrients and stunts their growth, which could lead to the development of new treatments for the deadly disease. [Learn more.](#)



Clinical Trial Spotlight

Cascade Germline Genetic Testing in Families Study

Researchers at the Ohio Health & Science University (OHSU) Knight Cancer Institute are seeking volunteers for a study on Cascade Genetic Testing (CGT) for prostate cancer patients and their families.

Cascade testing involves genetic testing and counseling for blood relatives of individuals already identified with specific genetic mutations.

The study aims to identify barriers to CGT and improve the process for families with known cancer-risk genes. Participants will receive free genetic testing and counseling to help researchers understand how to enhance the CGT process.

NePtune Neoadjuvant PARP Inhibitor Study

The University of California San Diego (UCSD) is conducting a Phase 2 study examining neoadjuvant PARP inhibition followed by radical prostatectomy. NePtune is seeking patients with unfavorable intermediate-risk or high-risk prostate cancer.

All eligible patients will be treated with olaparib and an LHRH agonist. After 6 months of therapy, patients will undergo radical prostatectomy (RP). Testing for germline and somatic mutations will be provided.

Voices of PROMISE



Unlocking Lonnie Van Horn's Genetic Blueprint

Lonnie Van Horn has been waging a seven-year battle against metastatic prostate cancer. His journey is one of determination and hope and shines a spotlight on the importance of understanding the role genes play when seeking the most effective treatment path. Read Lonnie's [full story](#).

If you have an inspiring story you'd love to share, we'd love to hear from you! Get in touch, and you could be featured in an upcoming PROMISE newsletter. Please contact us at pcctcpromise@mskcc.org

Webinars

Upcoming Webinar

Join us for our annual webinar on March 5th, 2025. PROMISE Principal Investigators, Drs. Heather Cheng and Channing Paller, and Genetic Counselor Justin Lorentz will provide PROMISE updates, new research findings, and treatment options.

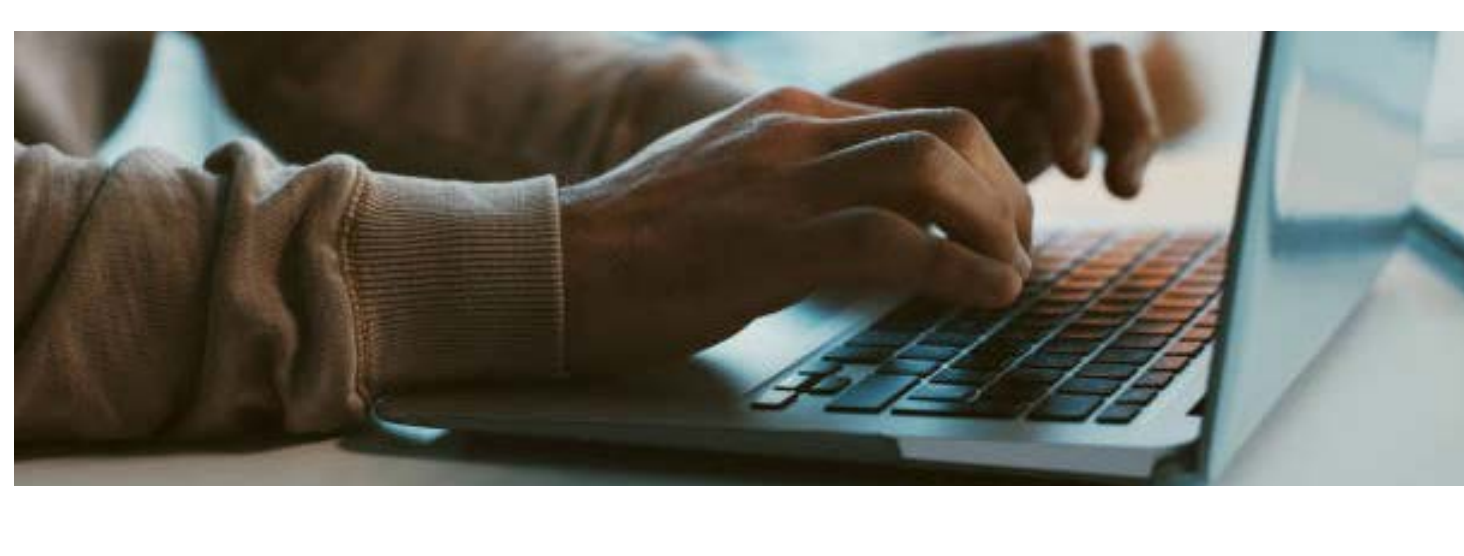
Event Name	Date	Location	Details
PROMISE Annual Webinar	March 5th, 2025	Virtual/ZOOM	Keep an eye out for updates. Agenda topics and a registration link will be sent via email.

Recent Webinar

The PROMISE team hosted a mini-webinar, "BRCA 1 and BRCA 2: Implications for You and Your Family", on Wednesday, December 4th, 2024. Justin Lorentz, M.Sc., a certified genetic counselor and PROMISE team member, discussed the implications of being identified with a BRCA 1 and/or BRCA 2 gene mutation.

Justin explained to participants how this crucial information impacts treatment, prognosis, and your family's cancer risk. Watch the mini-webinar here: [BRCA 1 and BRCA 2: Implications for You and Your Family](#)

After watching the mini-webinar, please take a few minutes to complete a [three-question survey](#). We would love to hear your thoughts!



Reminders

Did you finish your PROMISE Registration?

If you have not completed your registration (i.e., have not received your saliva sample kit, returned your saliva sample kit, or did not claim a kit), please sign in to your Color account and complete registration here. Completing your registration may help you and your family learn more about potential hereditary risks for prostate cancer.


Click here to finish registration with our genetic testing partner, Color: www.color.home.com. If you need assistance, please contact Color's support team **Monday – Friday, 6 am to 5 pm PST, at (844) 352-6567 or support@color.com.**

Have you had a genetic counseling appointment?

All PROMISE participants receive a genetic counseling appointment at no cost with a Color Genetic Counselor. Genetic counseling appointments are a great way to understand your results better. You are welcome to schedule as many appointments as you need to ensure you fully comprehend the information and its implications.

Schedule your appointment by logging into your Color account: www.color.home.com. If you need assistance, please contact Color's support team **Monday – Friday, 6 am to 5 pm PST, at (844) 352-6567 or support@color.com.**

PROMISE by the Numbers

 **4,500+**
genetic tests completed

 **397**
participants are eligible for long-term follow-up

The PROMISE Registry is represented in all 50 states. Check out our website for any updates and news: prostatecancerpromise.org.

How to Reach Us

PROMISE Study Team

Hours of Operation
Mon. – Fri., 9 am to 5 pm EST

Phone Number
(646) 449-3363

Email
pcctcpromise@mskcc.org

Color Support

When contacting Color Support, inform them that you are a participant in the PROMISE study.

Hours of Operation
Mon. – Fri., 6 am to 5 pm PST

Phone Number
(844) 352-6567

Email
support@color.com

Promise.

Connect with Promise



www.prostatecancerpromise.org