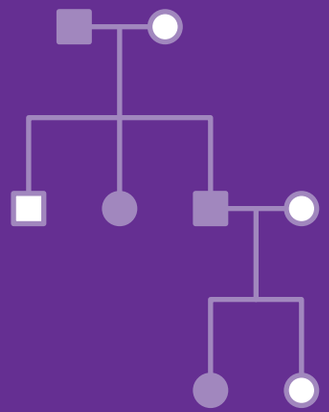
What is familial pancreatic cancer?

Some families have multiple relatives affected by pancreatic cancer, often over a few generations. Individuals with two or more close relatives with pancreatic cancer may be at a higher risk of developing pancreatic cancer.



- Affected Male
- Affected Female
- Non-Affected Male
- Non-Affected Female

Some families are known to have specific genes that predispose to the development of pancreatic cancer.

There are other individuals at increased risk of developing pancreatic cancer with inherited syndromes such as Peutz-Jeghers syndrome, Lynch syndrome and Hereditary pancreatitis.

How can I become involved in screening for familial pancreatic cancer?

If you would like more information on pancreatic cancer you can visit the Pancare Foundation website: **pancare.org.au**

To become involved in this pancreatic cancer screening program, you can contact the **Familial Pancreatic Cancer Screening Research Coordinator** on **1300 034 047** or email **trials@pancare.org.au**

Austin Health

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of Austin Health.

pancare FOUNDATION
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Familial Screening for Pancreatic Cancer

pancare FOUNDATION
taking up the challenge

Does someone in your family have pancreatic cancer?

What do we know about pancreatic cancer?

Pancreatic cancer is one of the most lethal and devastating human cancers. It is usually diagnosed when the cancer is quite advanced, due to the lack of symptoms and location of the pancreas deep within the abdomen.

More than 2800 Australians are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year. Roughly 2400 of those people will not survive.

Pancreatic cancer is a genetic disease, meaning it is caused by changes in our DNA. The majority of cases occur by chance, and are related to changes occurring to the DNA over a lifetime. However, 5-10% of cases are considered to be familial, indicating genetic faults may have been inherited.

It is this relatively small group of people who may be at a higher risk of developing pancreatic cancer and in turn hold the key to valuable genetic information about the disease.

Early Detection

Research has shown that early detection and treatment of pancreatic cancer greatly improves results for patients.

A screening trial at Austin Health is currently underway This trial combines the work of the departments of Surgery, Gastroenterology, Genetics and the Olivia Newton John Cancer Centre at Austin Health in collaboration with Sydney's St Vincent's Hospital and the Garvan Institute of Medical Research and is proudly supported by the Pancare Foundation.

The aim of this study is to identify and screen high-risk individuals using endoscopic ultrasound, a diagnostic test to detect small changes to the pancreas.

Who is most likely to be at risk?

People with at least two close relatives known to have pancreatic cancer

People who carry a BRCA2 gene fault and have a family history of pancreatic cancer

People with Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome

People with Hereditary Pancreatitis

What does the study involve?

Questionnaire

Genetic Counselling

Endoscopic Ultrasound and Blood Test

Normal

Abnormal

Yearly Endoscopic Ultrasound for 5 years

Close Surveillance or Treatment