“Initially, we didn’t want to know. Why open Pandora’s Box? But then we realized that if we see the cards we’re dealt ahead of time, we can change the game.”
Sheila, Breast Cancer Survivor

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program

The Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program is composed of an interdisciplinary team that includes geneticists, genetic counselors, physicians, and nurses who work together with the goal of providing cancer risk assessment and taking steps to prevent the development of cancer. Patients that are considered at risk for a familial or hereditary cancer receive genetic counseling and testing so informed medical decisions can be based on their own personal risk assessment. Individuals not suspicious for having a genetic predisposition also receive personalized information on how to lower their cancer risk. These interventions can have a huge impact on a person’s life by allowing them to better manage their health and reduce their risk of ever developing cancer.

Clinical Care and Research

Our team is committed to providing a comprehensive plan to help assist patients and their families with all aspects of the risk assessment and testing process, surveillance, surgical decision-making, and follow-up care. We also offer enrollment in research clinical trials aimed at helping to determine additional causes of hereditary cancers. If your personal and/or family history meets any of the listed risk factors, you can benefit from our Program’s personalized risk assessment and a discussion of the risks and benefits of testing options.

Our Program is a component of Yale Cancer Center, a comprehensive cancer center designated by the National Cancer Institute.
Who may be at risk for a hereditary or familial cancer?

People with:

- A personal or family history of early-onset cancer (younger than 45-50 years)
- Multiple family members on the same side of the family with the same or related cancers
- An individual or family member with a diagnosis of more than one type of cancer
- A personal or family history of breast or pancreatic cancer and Jewish ancestry
- A personal or family history of ovarian cancer at any age
- A personal or family history of a rare type of cancer/tumor (e.g. breast cancer in a male; medullary thyroid cancer; a sebaceous carcinoma or adenoma)

Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program

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Additional Locations:

The Center for Cancer Care at Griffin Hospital  
350 Seymour Avenue  
Derby, CT  
p (203) 200-4DNA

Smilow Cancer Hospital  
Care Center at Fairfield  
111 Beach Road  
Fairfield, CT  
p (203) 200-4DNA

Greenwich Hospital  
77 Lafayette Place  
Cohen Pavilion  
3rd Floor, Smilow Suite 301  
Greenwich, CT  
p (203) 200-4DNA

Saint Francis Campus  
1000 Asylum Avenue  
Hartford, CT  
p (860) 714-4679

The Norma F. Pfriem Cancer Institute  
5520 Park Avenue  
Trumbull, CT  
p (203) 200-4DNA

Lawrence & Memorial Cancer Center  
230 Waterford Parkway S.  
Waterford, CT  
p (860) 271-4652