BRCA 1 & 2 TESTING

Specific inherited mutations in BRCA1 and BRCA2 increase the risk of female breast and ovarian cancers, and they have been associated with increased risks of several additional types of cancer.

BRCA1 and BRCA2 are human genes that produce tumor suppressor proteins. These proteins help repair damaged DNA and, therefore, play a role in ensuring the stability of the cell's genetic material. When either of these genes is mutated or altered, such that its protein product either is not made or does not function correctly, DNA damage may not be repaired properly. As a result, cells are more likely to develop additional genetic alterations that can lead to cancer. Breast and ovarian cancers associated with BRCA1 & BRCA2 mutations tend to develop at younger ages than their nonhereditary counterparts.

BRCA1 & BRCA2 mutations account for

- **20-25%** Hereditary Breast Cancers
- **5-10%** Breast Cancers
- **15%** Ovarian Cancers

**WHY IS THIS TEST IMPORTANT?**

Early Detection and Treatment • The Importance of Testing

**BREAST CANCER:**
About 12 percent of women in the general population will develop breast cancer sometime during their lives. By contrast, according to the most recent estimates, 55 to 65 percent of women who inherit a harmful BRCA1 mutation and around 45 percent of women who inherit a harmful BRCA2 mutation will develop breast cancer by age 70.

**OVARIAN CANCER:**
About 1.3 percent of women in the general population will develop ovarian cancer sometime during their lives. By contrast, according to the most recent estimates, 39 percent of women who inherit a harmful BRCA1 mutation and 11 to 17 percent of women who inherit a harmful BRCA2 mutation will develop ovarian cancer by age 70.

A woman’s lifetime risk of developing breast and/or ovarian cancer is greatly increased if she inherits a harmful mutation in BRCA1 or BRCA2.

Primex Test Code 1734

For more information please visit our website [www.primexlab.com](http://www.primexlab.com)

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