

Hereditary Prostate Cancer Panel, Sequencing and Deletion/Duplication

Last Literature Review: August 2022 Last Update: November 2025

Pathogenic germline variants in multiple genes have been implicated in hereditary prostate cancer. Hereditary cancer syndromes are often characterized by the onset of cancer at an early age (typically before 50 years of age) and multiple, multifocal, and/or similar cancers in a single individual or in one or more closely related family members. Refer to the [Genes Tested](#) table below for more details regarding the genes and syndromes included on the Hereditary Prostate Cancer Panel. Genes included on this panel are also included in other ARUP hereditary cancer tests. For more information, refer to the [ARUP Hereditary Cancer Panel Comparison](#) table.

Genetics

Genes

Refer to the [Genes Tested](#) table for genes included in the panel.

Etiology

Approximately 10% of prostate cancers are associated with a hereditary cause.¹

Inheritance

- Autosomal dominant
- Some genes are also associated with autosomal recessive childhood cancer predisposition or other syndromes.

Test Interpretation

Contraindications for Ordering

- For individuals with a suspected diagnosis of Lynch syndrome, consider testing specific to Lynch syndrome as some relevant variants are not included on this panel. Refer to [Lynch Syndrome - Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer \(HNPCC\)](#) for more information.
- The test should not be ordered to detect somatic variants associated with malignancy because sensitivity for mosaic variants is low with methodology used for germline assays.
- Individuals with hematological malignancy and/or a previous allogeneic bone marrow transplant should not undergo molecular genetic testing on peripheral blood specimen.
 - Testing of cultured fibroblasts is required for accurate interpretation of test results.

Methodology

This test is performed using the following sequence of steps:

- Selected genomic regions, primarily coding exons and exon-intron boundaries, from the targeted genes are isolated from extracted genomic DNA using a probe-based hybrid capture enrichment workflow.
- Enriched DNA is sequenced by massively parallel sequencing (MPS; also known as next generation sequencing [NGS]) followed by paired-end read alignment and variant calling using a custom bioinformatics pipeline. The pipeline includes an algorithm for detection of large (single exon-level or larger) deletions and duplications.
- Sanger sequencing is performed as necessary to fill in regions of low coverage and in certain situations, to confirm variant calls.

Featured ARUP Testing

To compare directly to other hereditary cancer panels offered by ARUP Laboratories, refer to the [ARUP Hereditary Cancer Panel Comparison](#) table.

Hereditary Prostate Cancer Panel, Sequencing and Deletion/Duplication 3005686

Method: Massively Parallel Sequencing/Sequencing/Multiplex Ligation-Dependent Probe Amplification (MLPA)

- Recommended test to confirm a hereditary cause of prostate cancer in individuals with a personal or family history
- Testing minors for adult-onset conditions is not recommended and will not be performed without prior approval. For additional information, please contact an ARUP genetic counselor at 800-242-2787.

If a familial sequence variant has been previously identified, targeted sequencing for that variant may be appropriate; refer to the [Laboratory Test Directory](#) for additional information.

- Large deletion/duplication calls made using MPS are confirmed by an orthogonal exon-level microarray when sample quality and technical conditions allow.
- Long-range polymerase chain reaction (PCR) followed by nested Sanger sequencing is performed on the following gene(s) and exon(s):
 - *PMS2* (NM_000535) 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
- Bidirectional Sanger sequencing is performed on the following gene(s) and exon(s):
 - *MSH2* (NM_000251) 5
 - *PMS2* (NM_000535) 7
- Multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA) is performed on the following genes to call exon-level deletions and duplications:
 - *PMS2* (NM_000535)

Sensitivity/Specificity

Clinical Sensitivity

Variable, dependent on phenotype/condition

Analytic Sensitivity

Variant Class	Analytic Sensitivity (PPA) Estimate ^a (%) and 95% Credibility Region	Analytic Specificity (NPA) Estimate (%)
SNVs	>99 (96.9-99.4)	>99.9
Deletions 1-10 bp ^b	93.8 (84.3-98.2)	>99.9
Insertions 1-10 bp ^b	94.8 (86.8-98.5)	>99.9
Exon-level ^c deletions	97.8 (90.3-99.8) [2 exons or larger] 62.5 (38.3-82.6) [Single exon]	>99.9
Exon-level ^c duplications	83.3 (56.4-96.4) [3 exons or larger]	>99.9
Exon-level deletions/duplications (MLPA)	>99	>99

^aPPA values are derived from larger methods-based MPS and/or Sanger validations. These values do not apply to testing performed by multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA) unless otherwise indicated.

^bVariants greater than 10 bp may be detected, but the analytic sensitivity may be reduced.

^cIn most cases, a single exon deletion or duplication is less than 450 bp and 3 exons span a genomic region larger than 700 bp.

bp, base pairs; NPA, negative percent agreement; PPA, positive percent agreement; SNVs, single nucleotide variants

Limitations

- A negative result does not exclude a heritable form of cancer.
- Diagnostic errors can occur due to rare sequence variations.
- Interpretation of this test result may be impacted if this patient has had an allogeneic stem cell transplantation.
- Deletions/duplications within *PMS2* exons 12-15 may not be distinguishable from the *PMS2CL* pseudogene and may be reported as inconclusive.
- The following will not be evaluated:
 - Variants outside the coding regions and intron-exon boundaries of targeted genes
 - Regulatory region and deep intronic variants
 - Breakpoints of large deletions/duplications
 - Sequence variants in *EPCAM*
 - The following exons are not sequenced due to technical limitations of the assay:
 - *BRCA1* (NM_007300) 13
 - *CHEK2* (NM_001005735) 3; (NM_001349956) 4
- The following may not be detected:
 - Deletions/duplications/insertions of any size by MPS
 - Large duplications less than 3 exons in size
 - Noncoding transcripts
 - Single exon deletions/duplications may not be detected based on the breakpoints of the rearrangement.

- Some variants due to technical limitations in the presence of pseudogenes, repetitive, or homologous regions
- Low-level somatic variants
- Deletions/duplications in the following exons:
 - *BRCA1* (NM_007294, NM_007299, NM_007300) 2; (NM_007298) 1
 - *CHEK2* (NM_007194) 11-15; (NM_001005735) 3,12-16; (NM_001257387) 12-16; (NM_001349956) 4,10-14; (NM_145862) 10-14

Genes Tested

To compare directly to other hereditary cancer panels offered by ARUP Laboratories, refer to the [ARUP Hereditary Cancer Panel Comparison table](#).

Gene	MIM Number	Disorder/Associated Cancer(s)/Tumor(s)	Inheritance
<i>ATM</i>	607585	Breast, colorectal, ^a ovarian, pancreatic, prostate	AD
		Ataxia-telangiectasia	AR
<i>BRCA1</i>	113705	HBOC syndrome	AD
		Breast, fallopian tube, ovarian, pancreatic, peritoneal, prostate	
		Fanconi anemia, complementation group S	AR
<i>BRCA2</i>	600185	HBOC syndrome	AD
		Breast, fallopian tube, melanoma, ovarian, pancreatic, peritoneal, prostate	
		Fanconi anemia, complementation group D1	AR
<i>CHEK2</i>	604373	Breast, colorectal, prostate, thyroid ^a	AD
<i>EPCAM</i> (Exon 9 deletion/duplications only)	185535	Lynch syndrome/HNPCC	AD
		Brain, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, renal pelvis and/or ureter, stomach, and others	
<i>HOXB13</i>	604607	Prostate	AD
<i>MLH1</i>	120436	Lynch syndrome/HNPCC	AD
		Brain, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreas, prostate, renal pelvis and/or ureter, stomach, and others	
		CMMRD	AR
<i>MSH2</i>	609309	Lynch syndrome/HNPCC	AD
		Brain, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreas, prostate, renal pelvis and/or ureter, stomach, and others	
		CMMRD	AR
<i>MSH6</i>	600678	Lynch syndrome/HNPCC	AD
		Brain, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreas, prostate, renal pelvis and/or ureter, stomach, and others	
		CMMRD	AR
<i>NBN</i>	602667	Breast, ^a ovarian, ^a prostate ^a	AD
		NBS	AR
<i>PALB2</i>	610355	Breast, ovarian, pancreas, prostate	AD
		Fanconi anemia, complementation group N	AR

Gene	MIM Number	Disorder/Associated Cancer(s)/Tumor(s)	Inheritance
<i>PMS2</i>	600259	Lynch syndrome/HNPCC Brain, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreas, prostate, renal pelvis and/or ureter, stomach, and others	AD
		CMMRD	AR
<i>RAD51D</i>	602954	Breast, ovarian, prostate	AD
<i>TP53</i>	191170	LFS Adrenocortical carcinoma, breast, choroid plexus carcinoma, CNS, colorectal, melanoma, osteosarcoma, pancreas, prostate, renal, rhabdomyosarcoma, soft tissue sarcoma, stomach, thyroid, and others	AD

^aAssociation is suggested but not well-established at this time

AD, autosomal dominant; AR, autosomal recessive; CMMRD, constitutional mismatch repair deficiency; CNS, central nervous system; HBOC, hereditary breast and ovarian cancer; HNPCC, hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer; LFS, Li-Fraumeni syndrome; NBS, Nijmegen breakage syndrome

References

1. American Cancer Society. [What causes prostate cancer?](#) Accessed Jun 2022.

Related Information

[Hereditary Cancer Germline Genetic Testing](#)

ARUP Laboratories is a nonprofit enterprise of the University of Utah and its Department of Pathology. 500 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108
(800) 522-2787 | (801) 583-2787 | aruplab.com | arupconsult.com