

# MATCHED TUMOR NORMAL SEQUENCING: THE ROLE FOR GENETIC COUNSELORS

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# OBJECTIVES

- Briefly describe the evolution of cancer genetic testing.
- Define matched tumor normal sequencing.
- Discuss the role of the genetic counselor in matched tumor normal sequencing.

# HISTORY OF CANCER GENETICS

- Prior to personalized therapy, cancer treatment was “trial and error”
- Start of personalized therapy → prognostic markers/growth signal inhibitors (factors that predict disease outcome and contribute to the growth and spread of cancer cells; gene-drug interactions)
  - *EGFR, KRAS, BRAF, KIT, Her2, etc.*
- Addition of panels to tumor profiling → no longer looking at specific alleles but at the whole gene
  - More genes = more targets for therapy → potentially better patient outcome

# TUMOR PROFILING UTILIZING NGS

- Quickly becoming an integral part of clinical care in oncology
- Utilizes next generation sequencing (NGS) technologies to test for a targeted panel of known cancer-causing genes.
- Identifies acquired (somatic) alterations in the tumor which lead to the malignant phenotype.
- Somatic alterations are targets for personalized therapies and treatments
  - Safer, more effective, and better patient health outcome than traditional treatment

# TUMOR GENOTYPING

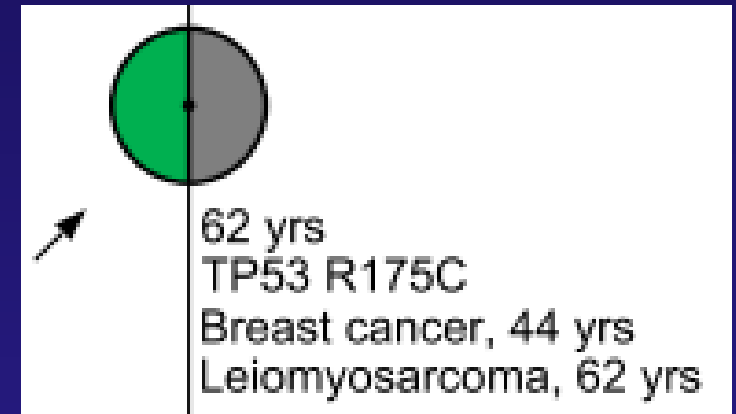
- Tumor genotyping will identify **BOTH** somatic alterations and germline changes.
- Testing the tumor only cannot always easily distinguish between somatic and germline changes.

# CASE EXAMPLE #1

- 62 y/o female
- Breast cancer dx. 44 and leiomyosarcoma dx. 62
- Tumor Profiling

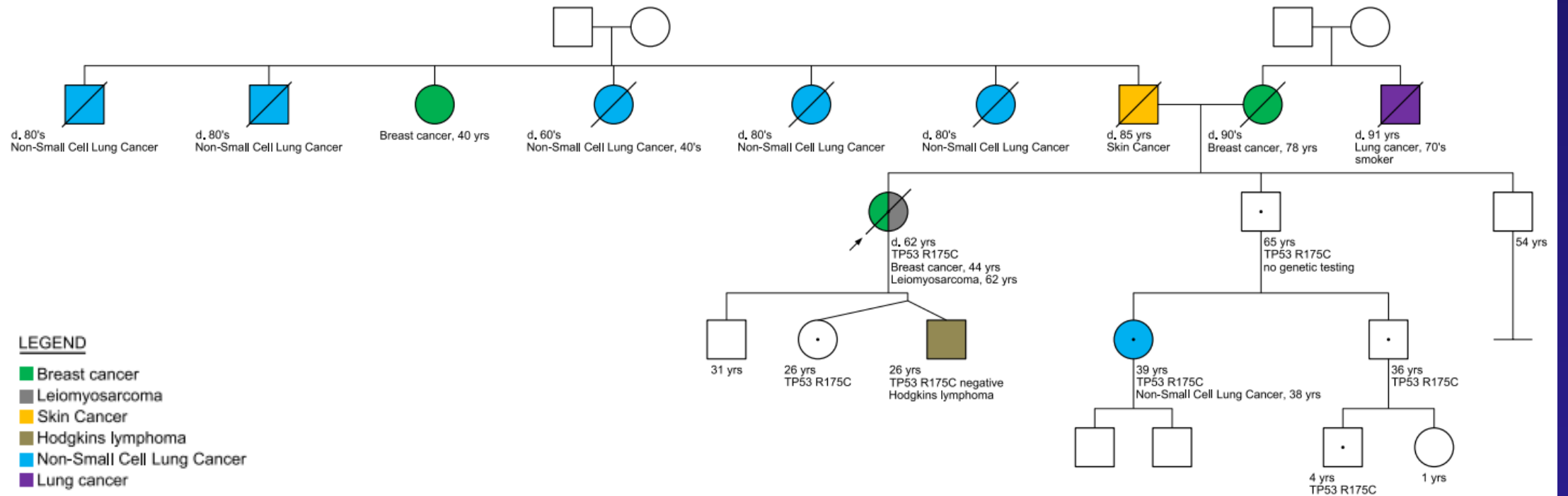
**ABOUT THE TEST:**  
FoundationOne™ is a next-generation sequencing (NGS) based assay that identifies genomic alterations within hundreds of cancer-related genes.

PATIENT RESULTS	TUMOR TYPE: SOFT TISSUE LEIOMYOSARCOMA
7 genomic alterations	<b>Genomic Alterations Identified†</b>
14 therapies associated with potential clinical benefit	KDR amplification
0 therapies associated with lack of response	KIT amplification
13 clinical trials	PDGFRA amplification
	BRCA2 K3326* ←
	CDKN2A/B loss ←
	TP53 R175C ←
	ERBB2 C587*



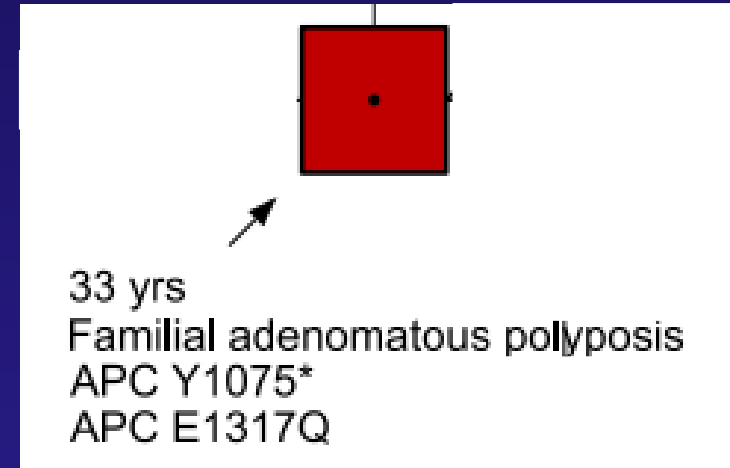
- Referred to Genetics
- MyRisk Panel negative
  - TP53 R175C VUS

# TP53 Family



# CASE EXAMPLE #2

- 33 y/o male
- Colon cancer and polyposis dx. at 31 y/o
- Met clinical criteria of FAP
  - → full gene sequencing *APC*
    - Y1075\* and E1317Q
- Tumor Profiling one year later...



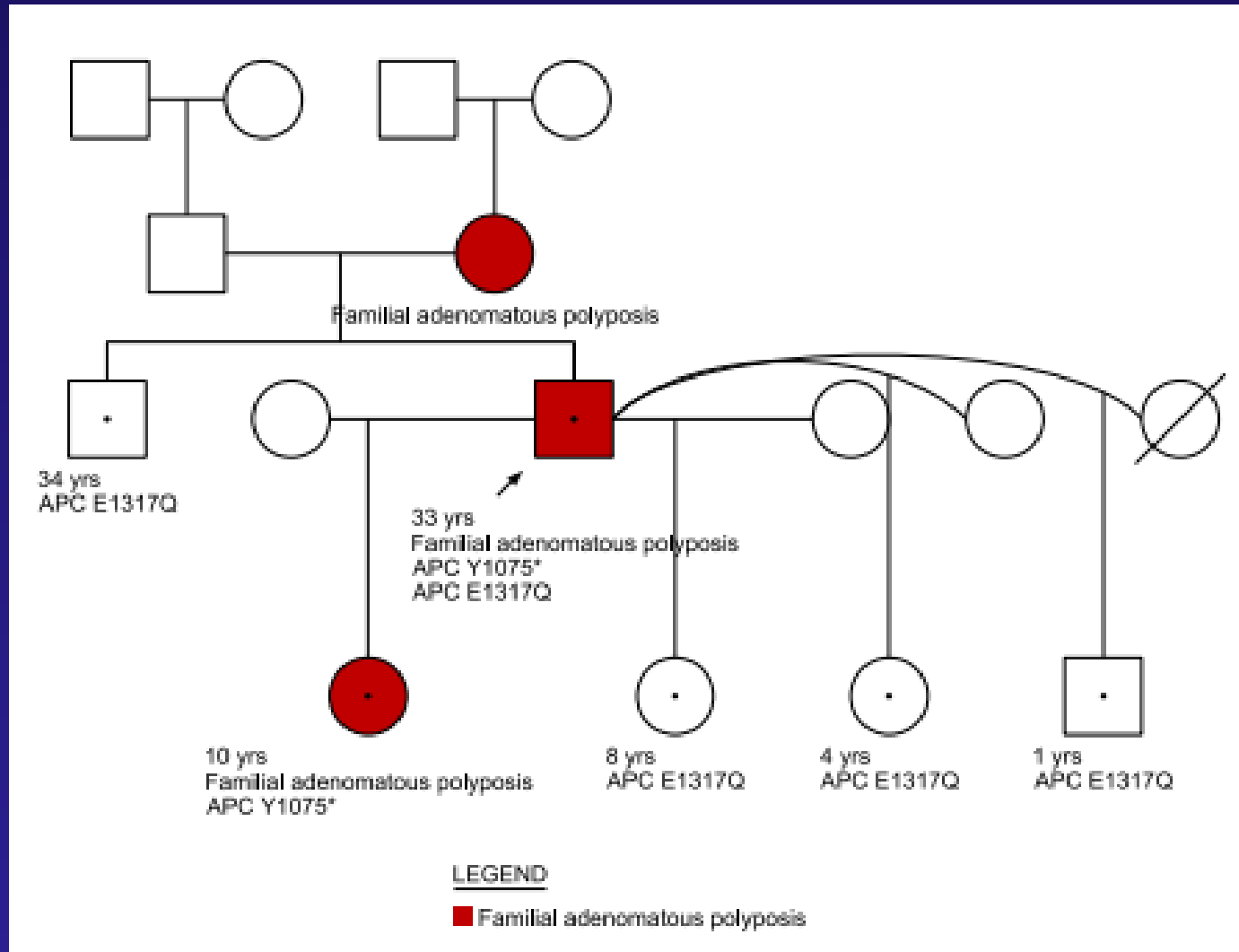
**ABOUT THE TEST:**  
FoundationOne® is a next-generation sequencing (NGS) based assay that identifies genomic alterations within hundreds of cancer-related genes.

PATIENT RESULTS	TUMOR TYPE: COLON ADENOCARCINOMA (CRC)
5 genomic alterations	<b>Genomic Alterations Identified<sup>1</sup></b> <i>KRAS</i> G12R <i>FBXW7</i> R465C <i>PTEN</i> loss <i>APC</i> E1379*, Y1075* ←
0 therapies associated with potential clinical benefit	<b>Additional Disease-relevant Genes with No Reportable Alterations Identified<sup>1</sup></b> <i>NRAS</i> <i>BRAF</i>
2 therapies associated with lack of response	
14 clinical trials	

<sup>1</sup>For a complete list of the genes assayed and performance specifications, please refer to the Appendix



# APC Family



# Case Examples

- Both received tumor profiling and germline sequencing
  - Timing different
  - Different stages of in their cancer history
    - essentially matched tumor normal sequencing
- Genetic counseling involvement only during germline sequencing

# MATCHED TUMOR-NORMAL SEQUENCING

- Matched tumor-normal sequencing
  - Comparing tumor and matched normal sequencing pairs
  - Allows for correct identification of somatic and germline alterations
- Not widely utilized
  - Due to cost and turn-around-time
- Why is this important?
  - Allows for informed and appropriate treatment decisions
  - Identifies personal and familial clinical implications
    - Could be missed without performing matched tumor-normal sequencing

# WHAT HAS BEEN SEEN SO FAR...

- One study indicated that 31% of alterations identified in tumor samples may be incorrectly classified. This leads to pathogenic germline changes being missed or germline variants mistakenly classified as actionable somatic changes. (Jones et al. 2015)
- Another study suggested that 16% of tumor alterations were germline.
  - Almost every participant had more than one germline variant of uncertain significance.
  - (Schrader et al. 2015)
- Indicates a high incidence of tumor alterations are germline rather than somatic alterations.

# AN ADDITIONAL MATCHED TUMOR NORMAL STUDY

- My graduate school thesis project (through UAMS)
- Conducted at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls, SD

# GEMMA TRIAL

- Genetic Exploration of the Molecular Basis of Malignancy in Adults
  - Oncogenetic clinical trial
  - Individuals with cancer whose disease has progressed following their first line of treatment
    - Purpose – determine a better course of cancer treatment
- All participants received tumor profiling
  - 106 enrolled (as of September 2015)
- Trial already in place – patients already consented to germline testing in original GEMMA protocol
- The purpose of GEMMA was not to identify germline variants but it is a question that comes up

# TUMOR PROFILING

## PATIENT RESULTS

4 genomic alterations

0 therapies associated with potential clinical benefit

0 therapies associated with lack of response

2 clinical trials

TUMOR TYPE: STOMACH NEUROENDOCRINE  
CARCINOMA

### Genomic Alterations Identified†

CCNE1 amplification  
TP53 R110\_L111insR  
KDM6A loss exons 18-29  
RB1 loss exons 21-27

## APPENDIX

### VARIANTS OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE

Note: One or more variants of unknown significance (VUS) were detected in this patient's tumor. These variants have not yet been adequately characterized in the scientific literature. We choose to include them here in the event that they become clinically meaningful in the future.

AKT2  
R208K

ALK  
R1231Q

MAP2K1  
P15A

NTRK3  
S716Y

PTCH1  
R13G

ZNF703  
H402\_D403>PTHLG  
GSSCSTCSAHD

# FREQUENCY OF ALTERATIONS

- Actionable Variants
  - 146 actionable variants in 57 genes
  - Average number of actionable variants = 4.29 actionable variants per individual
  - Range = 1-12 actionable variants
- VUSs
  - 419 VUSs in 199 genes
  - Average number of VUSs = 12.32 VUSs per individual
  - Range = 3-93 VUSs



# GERMLINE SEQUENCING

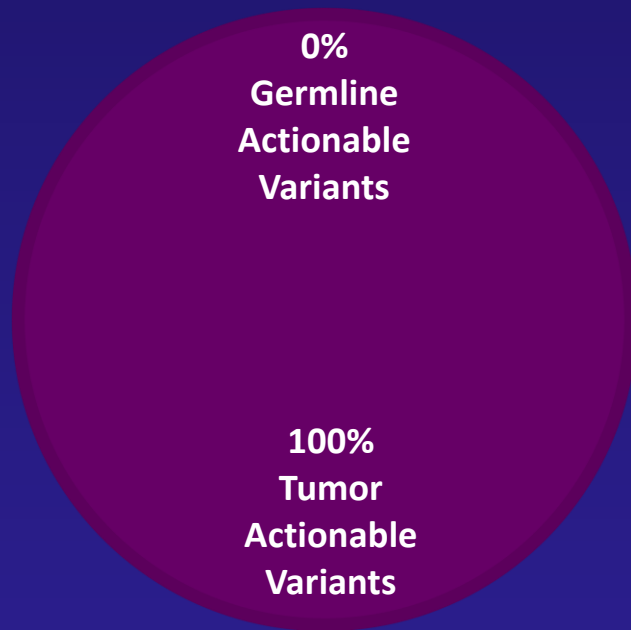
- Performed at Sanford Health
- Next Generation Sequencing
- TruSightOne focused exome kit from Illumina
  - 4200 genes
  - Ran on HiSeq 2500
- GenomePilot software (Appistry) was utilized to run BWA-MEM and GATK to generate the variant call files (VCF)
- VCF files loaded into the Codified software
  - Only looked at *TP53* and the 314 other genes that were on the Foundation One reports

# FREQUENCY OF GERMLINE ALTERATIONS

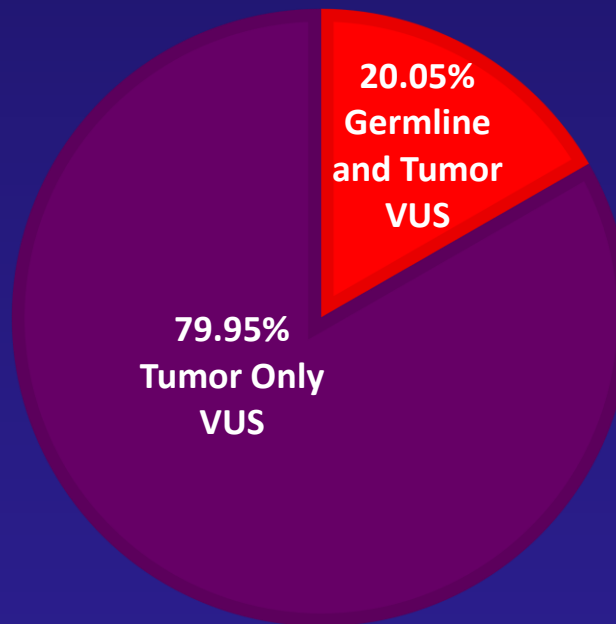
- **None** of the actionable variants identified in the tumor were found in germline.
- VUSs
  - 84 VUSs in 57 genes
  - Average number of VUSs = 2.47 VUSs per individual
  - Range = 0-5 VUSs
- **31 of 34 (91.18%)** individuals had at least 1 germline VUS

# TUMOR REPORTED vs GERMLINE REPORTED - MUTATIONS and VUS

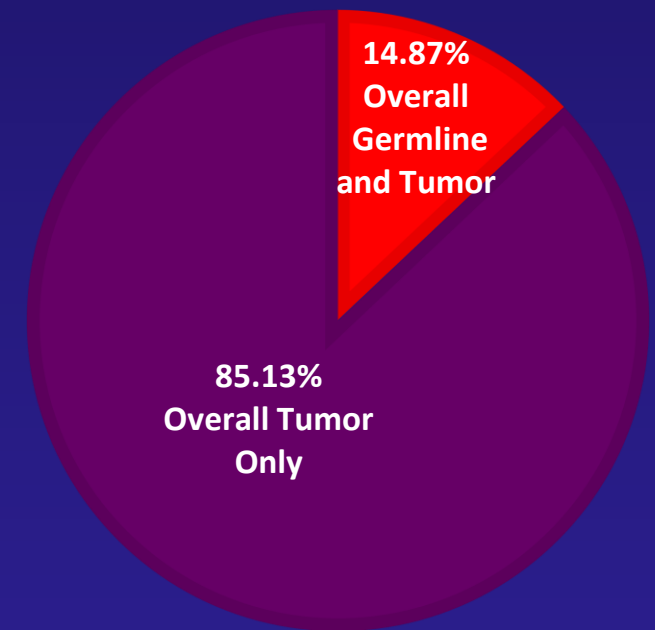
% Germline  
Actionable Variants



% Germline Variants of  
Uncertain Significance



% Total Germline  
Variants



# MATCHED TUMOR NORMAL SEQUENCING SUMMARY

- Comparing tumor and matched normal sequencing pairs
- Allows for correct identification of somatic and germline alterations
- Allows for informed and appropriate treatment decisions
- Identifies personal and familial clinical implications
- Previous studies indicate a high proportion of alterations identified on the tumor profile are germline rather than somatic

# GENETIC COUNSELING IN MY STUDY

- 4 individuals were referred for genetic counseling
  - 1 passed prior to genetic counseling
  - 3 received genetic counseling and germline testing
    - 1 prior to tumor profiling
    - 2 after tumor profiling

# GENETIC COUNSELING EXAMPLE

- Male
- Lung adenocarcinoma – dx. 67 y/o
- Family history
  - Brother – lung cancer dx 59 y/o
  - Sister – breast cancer dx 50s
  - Sister – breast cancer dx 58 y/o
  - Maternal uncle – lung cancer
  - Maternal uncle – esophagus and colon cancer
  - Paternal grandmother – uterine cancer dx 33 y/o
  - Paternal uncle – bone cancer/sinus cancer dx 70s

# GENETIC COUNSELING EXAMPLE

- Tumor Profiling:

PATIENT RESULTS	TUMOR TYPE: LUNG ADENOCARCINOMA
14 genomic alterations	<b>Genomic Alterations Identified†</b>
4 therapies associated with potential clinical benefit	<i>BRCA1</i> G401* ←
0 therapies associated with lack of response	<i>CDK4</i> amplification – equivocal‡
21 clinical trials	<i>PTEN</i> L57S ←
	<i>INPP4B</i> splice site 2135+2_2135+2delT
	<i>MYC</i> amplification
	<i>TP53</i> I254F ←
	<i>ARID1A</i> S610fs*9
	<i>DAXXM</i> 369fs*1
	<i>FAT1</i> K316*
	<i>LRP1B</i> splice site 10531+1G>C, W1962*
	<i>MAGI2</i> Y893*
	<i>MSH2</i> splice site 2210+1G>T ←
	<i>SPTA1</i> G822*

- *MSH2*, *BRCA1*, *PTEN*, *TP53*
- Referred for germline testing after tumor profiling

# GENETIC COUNSELING EXAMPLE

- Germline Testing:
  - *BRCA1, BRCA2, CHEK2, EPCAM, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2, MUTYH, PTEN, TP53*
  - 2 VUSs identified
    - *MLH1* c.-28A>G
    - *MLH1* duplication exon 16-19
  - **Neither** were identified in the tumor profile



WHAT ROLE DO  
GENETIC COUNSELORS  
PLAY IN MATCHED  
TUMOR NORMAL  
SEQUENCING?

- Assess family history regardless of cancer diagnosis
- Follow-up on tumor profiling reports – both actionable variants and variants of uncertain significance
- Facilitate germline sequencing (if appropriate)
- Identify other family members who would benefit from genetic counseling and/or genetic testing
- Provide risk assessment and communication
- Patient education and assure patient understanding

# INTEGRATING GENETIC COUNSELING

- Integration into multidisciplinary oncology teams
- Involvement in tumor boards and case conferences
- Involvement in the patient's initial or follow-up oncology visits
- Genetic counselors can help coordinate care
  - Help clinicians determine appropriate follow-up
  - Coordinate familial testing and care
  - Bring together/connect patients and their families that have seen multiple providers (oncology, genetics, etc.)

# TAKE HOME POINTS

- Matched tumor-normal sequencing is effective in detecting somatic versus germline variants.
- Establishing tumor-normal profiling as clinical practice will assist in the care and treatment of cancer patients, as well as assess future health risks.
- There should be greater involvement of genetic counselors in these types of cases.
  - Genetic counselors play an important role in risk assessment, patient counseling and education, and case management.

# QUESTIONS



<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/parents-questions-about-childhood-vaccinations.aspx>

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