Cancer genetic counseling helps individuals and families:
- Recognize the role family history plays in cancer risk
- Learn more about their personal cancer risk
- Realize when genetic testing is appropriate
- Understand medical options available to manage cancer risk
- Choose individually appropriate medical strategies
The Hereditary Oncology Prevention and Evaluation (HOPE) Program at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey provides comprehensive genetic counseling and cancer risk assessment for individuals with a personal or family history of cancer.

The LIFE Center

The LIFE Center at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey provides young women with information about breast cancer diagnosis, prevention and treatment. The LIFE Center (LPGA Pros In the Fight to Eradicate breast cancer) was established to recognize the support of professional golfer, Val Skinner, the Ladies Professional Golf Association, and the Val Skinner Foundation supporters. Through the HOPE Program at The LIFE Center, young women with a personal or family history of breast cancer can learn more about their risk to develop cancer as well as current management strategies available to help modify their risk.

During your initial appointment with the HOPE Program, you can expect to:

- Provide information about your personal and family medical history;
- Discuss how your personal and family medical history impact your risk for cancer;
- Learn about cancer genetics and various medical management options;
- Review the benefits and limitations of genetic testing, if appropriate;
- Meet members of our multidisciplinary HOPE team, including a genetic counselor, medical oncologist, surgical oncologist, gynecologic oncologist, and/or social worker, if appropriate; and
- Learn about specific federal and state laws that protect individuals from genetic discrimination.

To arrange an appointment with the HOPE Program, please call 732-235-7110. You will also find more information on our website: www.cinj.org/geneticcounseling.

Follow up visits may be necessary based on the discussion and recommendations at your initial appointment. Most insurance companies will cover the cost of the initial genetic counseling appointment, and many will cover the cost of genetic testing if it is medically indicated. Any specific questions or concerns can be addressed during your appointment.