Our tests improve the health of entire families.

Support life planning by arming patients with information about how aggressive their cancer may be.

Reduce uncertainty about their future health.

Customize treatment and surveillance based on clear information about the genetics of the cancer.

Impact Genetics performs genetic tests for patients from across Canada, the United States and many other countries.

The Impact Genetics Uveal Melanoma Prognostic Test uses a series of molecular genetic tests to determine chance of survival without metastatic disease.

Impact Genetics
advancing genetic diagnostics

1-877-624-9769
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Uveal MELANOMA

Benefits of prognostic genetic testing
What is Uveal Melanoma?
Uveal melanoma (UM) is a melanoma (type of cancer) of the eye, involving the iris, ciliary body or choroid (collectively referred to as the uvea). These malignant (cancerous) tumors arise from the pigmented cells (melanocytes) within the uvea.

Genetics
Approximately 50% of patients diagnosed with UM will develop metastases within 10 years of treatment of the primary intraocular tumor. Multiple factors contribute to the survival prognosis of a patient with uveal melanoma including genetics of the tumor, histologic grade, size and clinical stage of the tumor [Damato, B. et al. Progress in Retinal and Eye Research, 2011].

One of the most important indicators of poor prognosis in UM is loss of chromosome 3 (monosomy 3). Metastatic disease develops almost exclusively in patients with this genetic abnormality. Other genetic factors contributing to the survival prognosis include copy number variation of chromosomes 1, 6 and 8 [Damato, B. et al. Arch Opthamol. 2009].

The prevalence of monosomy 3 in small tumors (basal diameter <10 mm) is as high as 35% [Damato, B. et al. Arch Opthamol. 2009]. For this reason, it is important to analyze the genetics of the tumor in addition to other factors such as size.

For more information about uveal melanoma, visit our website, at www.impactgenetics.com.

BENEFITS OF PROGNOSTIC GENETIC TESTING
Uveal Melanoma

1 Know your risks
Take control of your life and your treatment. The risk of metastases, even after initial treatment, can be estimated.

Genetic results indicate whether your chance of developing metastasis is high or low. Patients and their doctors can use this information to tailor their surveillance and treatment plans. Low risk patients are reassured and may need less surveillance. High risk patients may increase surveillance and may select more aggressive treatment options.

Studies have shown that patients are able to cope well with a poor prognosis. Patients feel that they have greater control, are able to plan more effectively and can make more informed medical choices.

What to expect from genetic testing:

2 Future cancer surveillance
With sufficient tumor sample, Impact Genetics’ uveal melanoma (UM) testing can accurately identify genetic alterations within cancer cells. The UM genetic test used by Impact Genetics is the most comprehensive test available. Multiple methods of testing are used to detect specific genetic abnormalities in eye tumor cells (isodisomy, monosomy and trisomy). These abnormalities can indicate the chance that the cancer will spread to other parts of the body.

3 Dependable results
Each individual finding is reported clearly, including appropriate interpretation. Impact Genetics does not report low risk results without confirmation that actual tumor tissue was analysed. This reduces the risk that a good result is incorrect (false negative). No other test offers this confirmation.

4 When to test
Testing is performed on tumor cells obtained from the affected eye. These cells can be obtained by biopsy before or after plaque or proton beam radiotherapy or can be taken from an enucleated (removed) eye.

Patients who have had radiotherapy can still benefit from Impact Genetics’ UM testing if enough tumor is present.

5 Future testing
With consent, Impact Genetics will bank any remaining DNA at no additional cost. When new tests are developed, Impact Genetics will identify which patients may benefit from additional testing and inform specialists.

6 Cost effective
Please contact Impact Genetics for pricing.

* Uninformative: refers to samples with a low risk to metastasize, in which tumor sampling cannot be confirmed.