

## **Referring Patients to Genetics at City of Hope - Internal Providers**

### **Why are patients referred to genetics?**

- Testing can identify changes in genes individuals were born with that may predispose them to developing cancer
- May provide insight into why cancer developed which may be helpful for the patient's medical team
- May assist patients and their families in taking preventative measures by identifying future cancer risks

### **How to refer a patient for precision medicine testing (IRB 07047)?**

- To request that a precision medicine consentor meets your patient
  - Place the consenting order in EPIC: COH PMED ENROLLMENT REQUEST (preferred method)
  - Email the consenting team: [DL-PMCRN@coh.org](mailto:DL-PMCRN@coh.org) (Duarte or Lennar), [DL-PMCOM@coh.org](mailto:DL-PMCOM@coh.org) (clinical network)
- Please note: All patients with a hematologic malignancy need a genetics referral because many cannot be tested through blood or saliva, and will require a skin punch biopsy

### **How to refer to genetics?**

- Place an 'Ambulatory referral to Genetics' order
  - Answer question, "Has the patient had prior genetic testing"
- Contact information for genetics schedulers: DL-WHCSURGERYSCHEDULING (email) or P WHCSURGERYSCHEDULING (inbasket)

### **Patient Requested Referral**

- Provider may place a referral to genetics, see "How to refer to genetics?" section above
- Patient can self-refer by calling 626-256-4673 and requesting a self-referral to genetics

### **Difference between placing a genetics referral and a patient consenting to genetic testing through the precision medicine study (IRB 07047)**

#### **Precision Medicine Study/General Research Study (IRB 07047)**

- Patient has the option of germline genetic testing for over 150 hereditary cancer genes and 34 non-cancer genes
- Results are disclosed to patient and treating physician is copied on the result note
  - If positive for one of the clinically actionable hereditary cancer genes > patient is referred to genetics to discuss results and management recommendations with a City of Hope genetics provider
  - If positive for one of the non-cancer genes > patient is provided with information for an external genetics provider to discuss results and management recommendations
  - If negative/uninformative/carrier > patient will receive a letter describing the results and will not be referred to genetics. The letter contains contact information for the genetics department should the patient have questions about their result
    - If the patient has a significant personal or family history of cancer, it may be beneficial for their treating provider to place a genetics referral to assess for empiric risk or clinical diagnosis of a hereditary cancer condition

### **Genetics Referral**

- A genetics provider will meet with the patient to collect a detailed personal and family history, review testing options, and discuss the risk and benefits of testing. Patient may decide to pursue testing through the precision medicine study or another avenue
- Patients will see a genetics provider for results disclosure for all results

**For questions, please call our genetics coordinator at (626) 218-4324 or email at [DL-CCGCoordinator@coh.org](mailto:DL-CCGCoordinator@coh.org)**