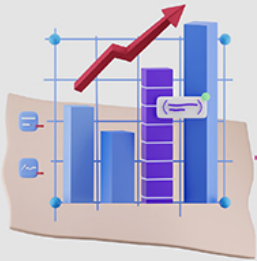


Understanding Lynch Syndrome: Impact & Prevention in the UK

Lynch Syndrome is a critical genetic condition that considerably elevates the risk of developing several types of cancer, most notably colorectal and endometrial cancers.



Cancer statistics

In 2018, England alone reported **35,958** new instances of **colorectal cancer** and **9,700** cases of **endometrial cancer**. Each year, **1,100** colorectal cancers are caused by Lynch Syndrome, making it the most common form of hereditary colorectal cancer (NICE, DG27).



NICE guidelines

In recognition of this pressing issue, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) introduced '**Diagnostic Guidance 27**' in **2017**, mandating Lynch Syndrome testing for all colorectal cancer patients, a mandate later extended to include endometrial cancer patients in **October 2020**.



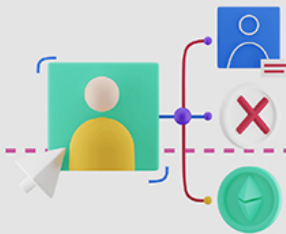
Surveillance measures

Bowel Cancer UK emphasises that if colorectal cancer patients and their families were adequately tested and managed by 2028, it could significantly improve early cancer diagnosis rates by up to **0.9 percentage points**.

 **5%**

Awareness gap

Alarming, Bowel Cancer UK reports that **less than 5%** of these carriers are aware of their status, underscoring a substantial gap in public health awareness and intervention.



Impact of early detection

The NHS Long Term Plan sets an ambition that by 2028, **75% of cancers** will be diagnosed at an early stage. One of the ways this ambition will be reached is through targeted screening and personalised surveillance of those most at risk of developing cancer such as those with Lynch Syndrome.



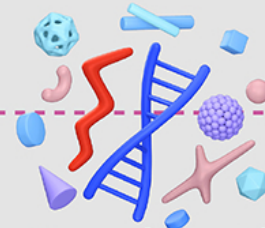
Health is an investment

Colorectal patients, diagnosed with Lynch Syndrome, will be offered a colonoscopy every **2 years** through the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme.



Cancer risk

Beyond colorectal cancer, Lynch Syndrome predisposes carriers to other malignancies including endometrial, gastric, small bowel, urothelial, and brain cancers, contributing to roughly **1,000** additional cancer cases annually in the UK.



Genetic testing

Testing is not merely diagnostic; it offers a lifeline to family members who might be carriers of the mutation, **enabling preventive interventions**, surgeries, and surveillance service enrolments. There is the opportunity for pre implantation genetic testing in assisted conception if a couple are both identified as Lynch Syndrome carriers.

