

## Mayo Clinic Minute

### Ovarian Cancer Genes

<b>Video</b>	<b>Audio</b>
<b>Myra Wick, M.D., Ph.D.</b> <b>Clinical Genetics</b> <b>Mayo Clinic</b>	“Ovarian cancer can be very tricky and oftentimes it isn’t diagnosed until it has spread.”
<b>Vivien Williams</b>	That’s why Mayo Clinic’s Dr. Myra Wick and colleagues study the genes that put women at increased risk of ovarian cancer.
<b>Myra Wick, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	“Gene sequencing technology has just exploded over the last several years.”
<b>Vivien Williams</b>	Researchers know that mutations in two genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2, increase risk of ovarian cancer and breast cancer. For carriers of mutations in these genes, the lifetime risk of breast cancer is 40 to 85 percent, and the lifetime risk of ovarian cancer is 15 to 40 percent.
<b>Myra Wick, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	“If you’re tested and we find that there is a gene mutation, whether it’s BRCA1 or 2, or another gene, we may have specific guidelines.”
<b>Vivien Williams</b>	Guidelines include screening for ovarian cancer, information about who should consider having surgery to prevent it and guidelines for how to treat it.
<b>Vivien Williams</b>	Dr. Wick says a blood test is what’s needed for genetic testing, and if a woman tests positive, there’s a 50-percent chance she’ll pass it on to her kids.
<b>Myra Wick, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	“It’s important for her and for her family members.”
<b>Vivien Williams</b>	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Vivien Williams.