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Your Family's Health History

[En español](#)



Get to know your family better by talking about health. Do any health conditions seem to run in your family? For example, have many people in your family had diabetes, cancer, a heart attack, or anything else?

Now is the time to find out. Ask about the health history of your grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, and the rest. You can share this information with your health care team.

Knowing your family's health history can help your health care team provide better care for you. It helps them know which medical tests to suggest for detecting early warning signs of certain diseases. Early testing helps because doctors can try to prevent a disease or treat it as soon as possible.

An online tool makes it easy to collect the information in one place. It's called "[**My Family Health Portrait**](#)." It's simple to fill out. And it's fast. It takes about 15 to 30

minutes.

The tool was developed by the U.S. Surgeon General. This national health campaign to share family health history was launched in 2004 and has been active every year since. For more information, visit www.genome.gov/17516481

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