

Introduction to

# Multi-Cancer Early Detection

Spot early signs of 10 common and aggressive cancers, by analyzing DNA shed by cancer cells (ctDNA).



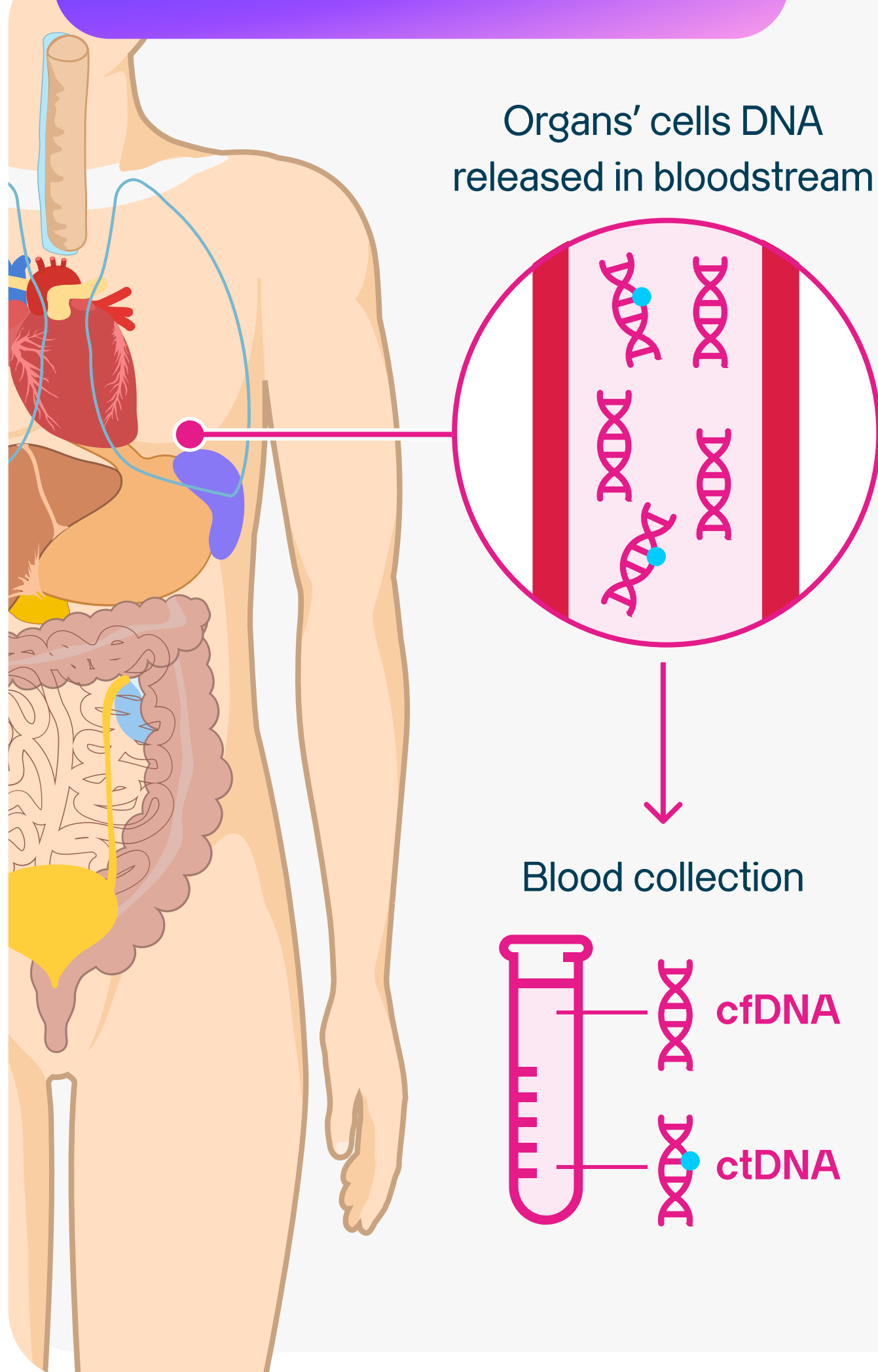
## Spot cancer signals early

- What is ctDNA Multi-Cancer Early Detection?
- Why should we care?
- What should we do to improve early detection?
- What screening options are available for me and my family?
- Who should consider starting ctDNA screening?
- Why SPOT-MAS and what do the results mean?



# 01 | What is ctDNA Multi-Cancer Early Detection?

## WHAT IS ctDNA TECHNOLOGY?



Cells from all organs carry DNA. Throughout their life cycle, cells release fragments of their DNA into the bloodstream. Examining these DNA fragments can provide valuable clinical insights.

**cfDNA (cell-free DNA):** DNA fragments released passively from cells into bloodstream.

Since 2011, cfDNA sequencing technology has been used to detect genetic abnormalities of the fetus through the collection of blood from pregnant women. This test is known as Non-invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT).

**ctDNA (circulating tumor DNA):** cell-free DNA released from tumor cells. Tumor cells release ctDNA actively with multiple features significantly different with cfDNA.

Following a similar concept, ctDNA technology is applied to detect and examine tumor DNA in the blood. This enables early detection of cancer for healthy individuals, as well as profiling and tracking tumor progress in cancer patients.

## BENEFITS OF ctDNA IN MULTI-CANCER EARLY DETECTION



**Convenience:** one single blood draw during a healthcare visit.



**High Accuracy:** high specificity limits false positive and unnecessary work-up.



**Early Detection:** the potential to identify cancer signals at an early stage.



**Efficiency:** capability to test for cancers that do not have recommended screenings to improve patient outcomes.

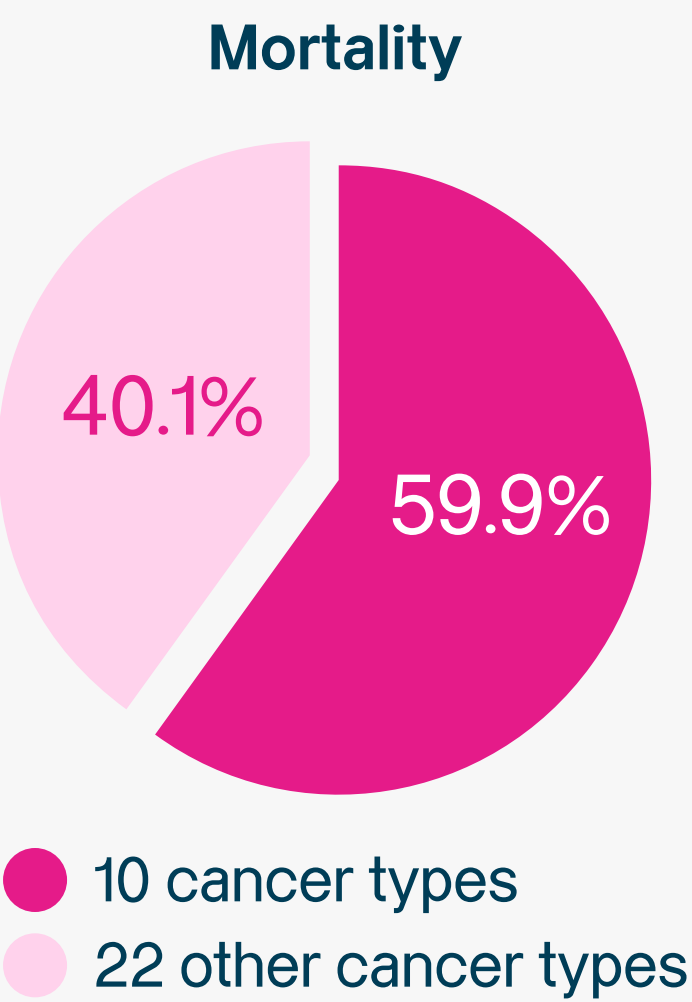
The practice of early detection for multiple cancers is an active search for a signal that many cancers share, thereby improving the probability of identifying cancer at an early stage.

ctDNA has been proved as an **insightful signal** in multi-cancer screening. <sup>(1)(2)</sup>

(1) Le Son Tran, et al. (2023) eLife 12:RP89083. (2) Daniel C. Chung, et al. (2024) The New England Journal of Medicine.

# 02 | Why should we care?

## STATUS OF 10 COMMON AND AGGRESSIVE CANCERS



**10 cancer types**

- Breast
- Lung
- Colorectum
- Stomach\*
- Liver\*
- Ovary\*
- Pancreas\*
- Esophagus\*
- Uterus\*
- Biliary tract\*

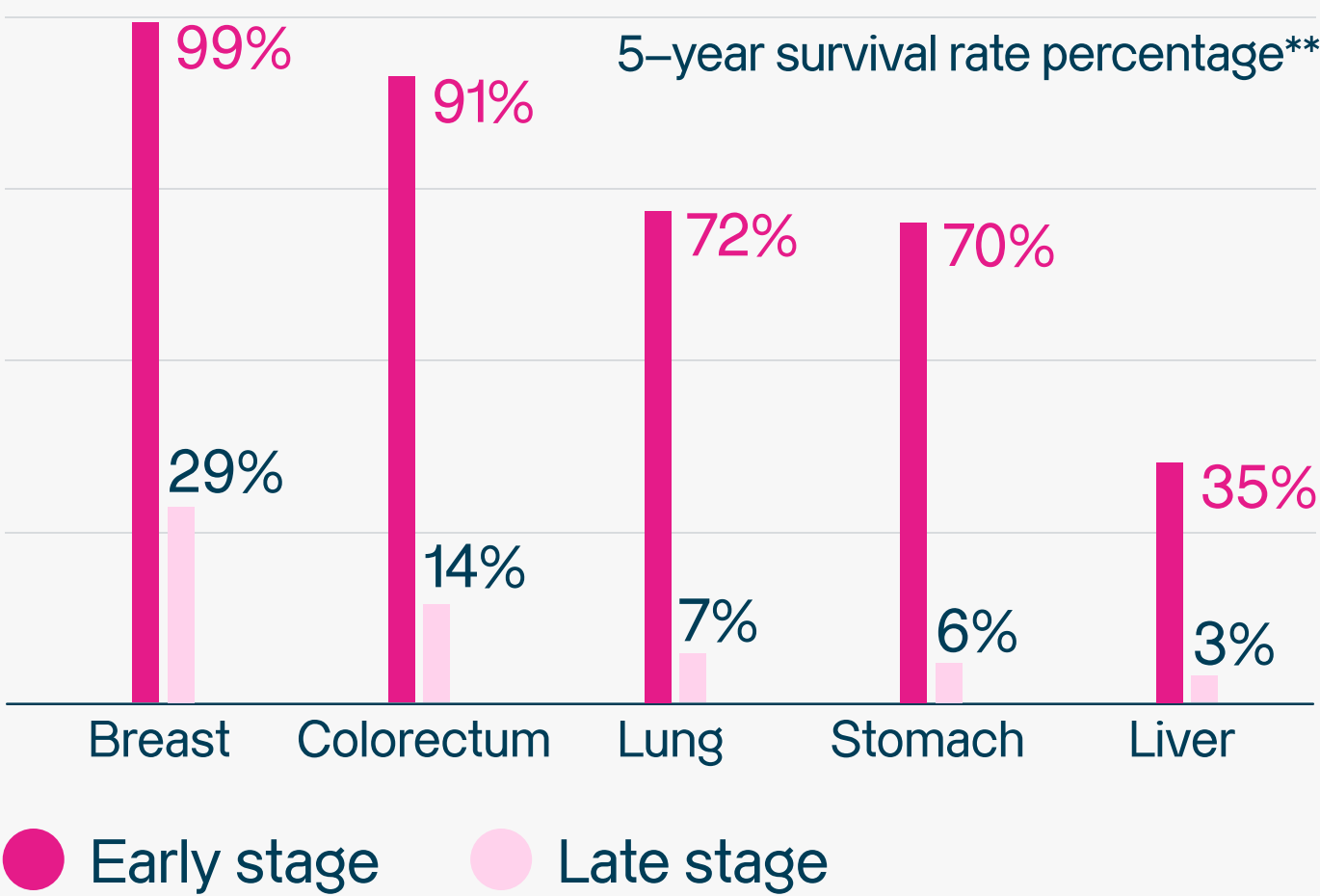
**\* 7/10**  
Cancer types that currently have no standard-of-care screening program available.

The WHO GLOBOCAN South–East Asia Report (2022) tracks the incidences of more than 3,000 new cases a day, spanning a total of 32 reported cancer types<sup>(1)</sup>. Remarkably, 10 types of cancer, accounted for 56.2% of total new incidences and 59.9% of total mortality.

Only three among them (Breast, Lung, Colorectum) have established screening programs. The need for early–stage screening for more cancer types is crucial, given the rising incidence of cancers. Early detection can significantly improve survival rates and save lives.

(1) WHO – GLOBOCAN 2022. South–Eastern Asia

## THE NEED FOR EARLY DETECTION



Early detection is key in the fight against cancer. It not only increases the chances of successful treatment but also significantly improves the quality of life for patients.

Common cancer types like breast or colorectum have >90% survival rate if detected early<sup>(2)</sup>. However, more than 70% of cancers in low–income and middle–income Asian countries are diagnosed in late stage<sup>(3)</sup>.

**Main reasons for late detection:**

- People with no obvious signs of cancer do not go for early cancer screening.
- Only a few cancer types have recommended screening.
- Cancer symptoms mostly occur at late stage.

**Late–stage diagnosis leads to<sup>(4)</sup>:**

- 5x higher mortality rate within 12 months.
- 50% higher chance of financial catastrophe.

(2) Statistics adapted from the American Cancer Society’s (ACS) publication, Cancer Facts & Figures 2022 and Cancer Facts & Figures 2021; the ACS website; and the International Agency for Cancer Research website.  
(3) Sankaranarayanan, R., Ramadas, K., Qiao, Y., 2014. Managing the changing burden of cancer in Asia. BMC Med 12, 3.  
(4) ACTION (Asean CosTs in Oncology) STUDY, Singapore 2020.



# 03 | What should we do to improve early detection?

## UNDERSTAND WHAT CAUSES CANCER

### Hereditary & Familial



25–30%<sup>(1)</sup> attributed to all cancers

Inherited from familial gene

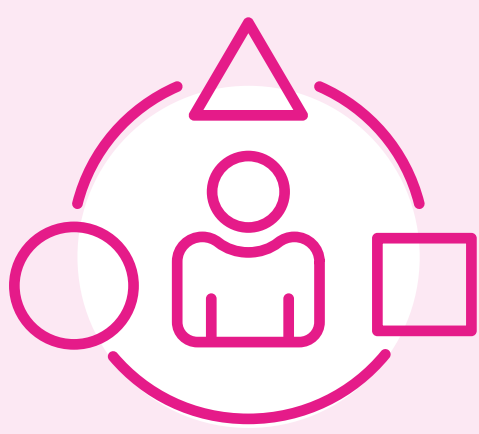
Mutations in a person genome from birth

All cells in the body have these mutations

May be passed to future generations

Screen for hereditary cancer risks: common genes associated with specific types of cancer.

### Occurred mutations



70%<sup>(1)</sup> attributed to all cancers

Caused by age, environment & lifestyle habits

Mutations acquired over time

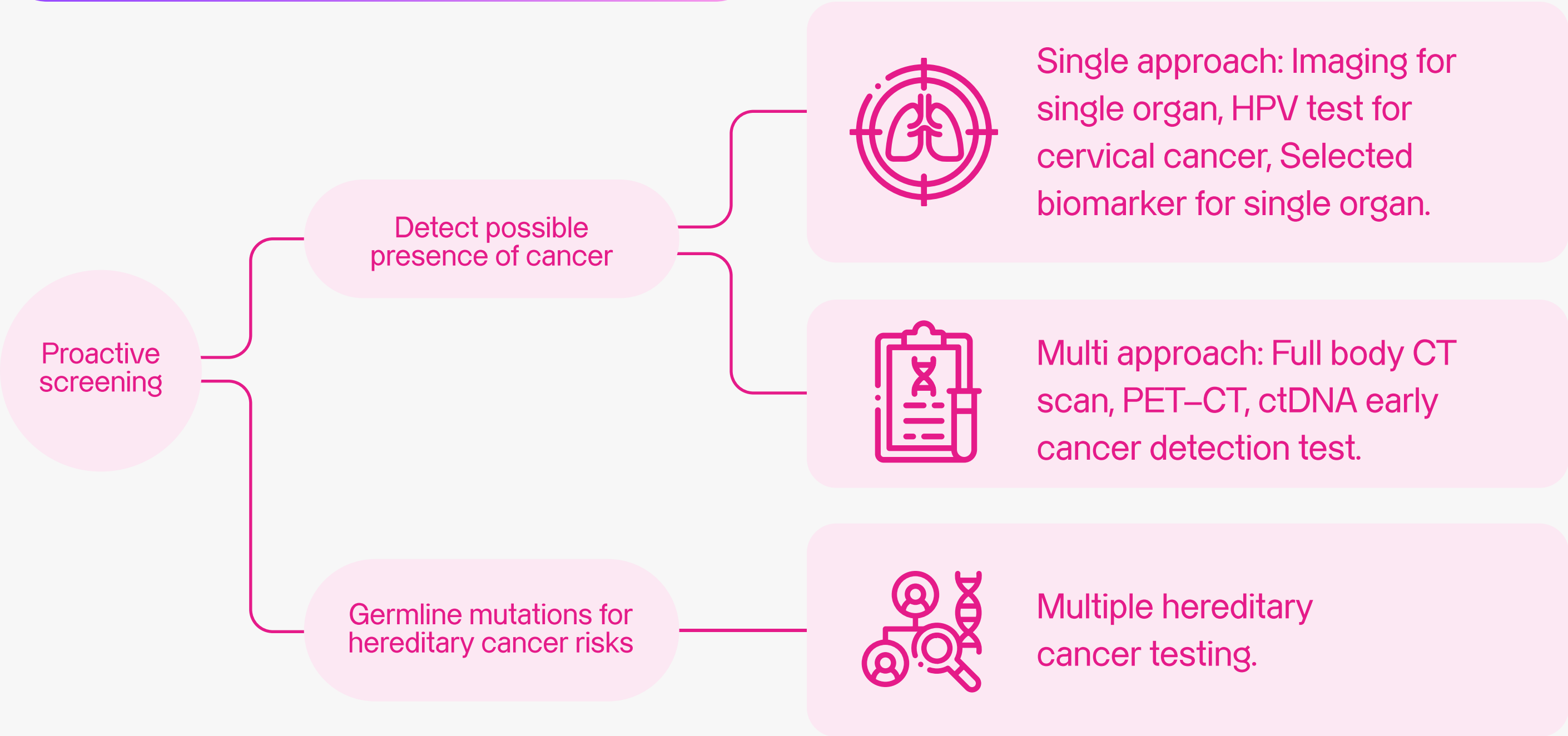
New mutations are present at the tumor only

Will not be passed to future generations

Screen for tumor presence at early stages by annual screening checkup or using ctDNA multi-cancer early detection test.

(1) Garber J.E., Offit K. Hereditary Cancer Predisposition Syndromes. J. Clin. Oncol. 2005;23:276–292

## AWARENESS OF SCREENING METHODS






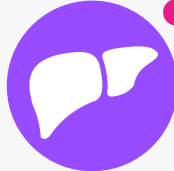





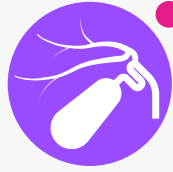


# 04 | What screening options are available for me and my family?

## SCREENING AVAILABILITY

Once in a lifetime	Hereditary cancer risks test by informed choice. (Related genes that recommended by American Cancer Society or National Comprehensive Cancer Network)
+ Routine cancer screening	Screening programs are available for some cancer types. Talk to your primary care doctor for advice.
+ Complementary Screening	Annual screening with SPOT-MAS covers multiple cancers that do not have formal screening programs. Discuss with your primary care doctor to learn more about the test.

## SCREENING PROGRAMS AND ctDNA SCREENING

<b>Recommended programs:<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>  <b>Breast cancer</b> Annual mammography for women above 40 years old.  <b>Colorectal cancer</b> Start regular Stool-based test or Colonoscopy at age 50.  <b>Lung cancer</b> Annual low-dose CT scan people age 50–80 who smoke or used to smoke.  <b>Cervical cancer</b> Cervical cytology, HPV test every 05 years and PAP test every 03 years for people from the age of 25-65.	<b>SPOT–MAS multi-cancer early detection test:</b>  Spot for early cancerous signal of:  <div> Breast</div> <div> Lung</div> <div> Colorectum</div> <div> Liver</div> <div> Stomach</div> <div> Ovary</div> <div> Pancreas</div> <div> Esophagus</div> <div> Uterus</div> <div> Biliary tract</div> <div>• <b>7/10</b> currently have no standard-of-care screening program available.</div>
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Screening methods complementary to standard-of-care programs are available as informed choices. Talk to your healthcare provider about the pros and cons of testing to make decision.

(1) National Cancer Centre Singapore (2) American Cancer Society



## 05 | Who should consider starting ctDNA screening?

01

### Heavy smoking

People who have a 20 pack-year history of smoking.<sup>(1)</sup>

02

### Heavy drinking

People who drink 15 cans of beer a week (for men) or 08 cans of beer a week (for women).<sup>(2)</sup>

03

### Hereditary risks

Those who have tested positive for inherited cancer genes such as BRCA1, BRCA2, TP53.<sup>(3)</sup>

04

### Liver diseases

People who have Hepatitis B or C.<sup>(4)</sup>

(1) Chen et al., 2021. American Journal of Otolaryngology 42, 102915. (2) Connor et al., 2017. Addiction 112, 222–228. (3) Garber et al., 2005. JCO 23, 276–292. (4) Petruzzello et al., 2018. TOVJ 12, 26–32. (5) Brewer et al., 2017. Breast Cancer Res Treat 165, 193–200.

05

### Familial history

People whose family members had been diagnosed with cancer.<sup>(5)</sup>

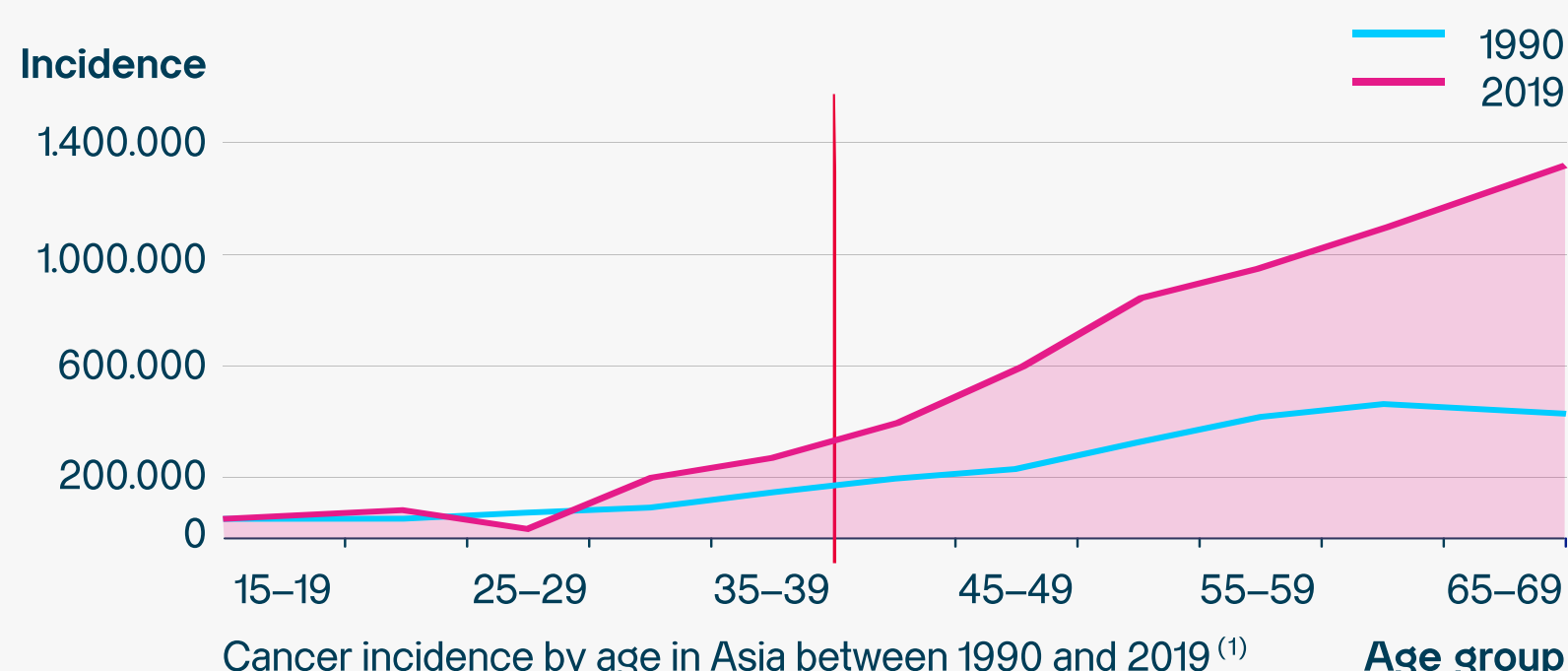
Adults aged less than 40 years but have high risks



Adults aged 40 years & older



The incidence of cancer has increased since 1990. Older persons are at higher risk for cancer.<sup>(1)</sup>



Globally, breast cancer screening is recommended for women above 40 years old<sup>(2)</sup>. Some countries recommend to screen for colon<sup>(3)</sup>, stomach<sup>(4)</sup>, lung<sup>(5)</sup>, and liver<sup>(6)</sup> starting from as early as 40 years old.

(1) Sharma et al., 2024. The Lancet Regional Health – Southeast Asia 21, 100333. (2) Renet et al., 2022. The Breast 64, 85–99. (3) Azad NS et al., 2020. Prev Med. 2020;133:106003. (4) Mabe et al., 2022. Digestive Endoscopy 34, 412–419. (5) Nawa et al., 2019. Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology 49, 130–136. (6) Lee et al., 2014. Cancer Res Treat 46, 223–233.



## 06 | Why SPOT–MAS?

**Largest clinical validation in Asia:** SPOT–MAS performance is validated in a research involves **9.024 participants**, showing proven accuracy in cancer signal detection (78.1% Sensitivity, **99,8% Specificity**) and tumor location prediction (84% Accuracy).<sup>(1)</sup>

**Testing Laboratory:** The blood specimen is processed and tested at Gene Solutions Genomics Pte Ltd, a MOH-licensed clinical laboratory in Singapore. Results will be delivered to your doctor.

(1) Nguyen, et al. "Analytical and clinical validation of a ctDNA based assay for multi-cancer early detection" (2023). doi:10.1101/2023.12.22.23300420

**International Awards:** Gene Solutions' award winning studies to screen for multi-cancer has been featured in:

- American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Breakthrough 2023
- European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Asia 2023
- >14 peer-reviewed international biomedical journal articles, including eLife, Nature publications, etc

### WHAT DO SPOT–MAS RESULTS MEAN?



**Negative:**  
**No ctDNA signal detected**

ctDNA was not detected when the SPOT–MAS test was conducted. This test provides a snapshot of the blood at the time of collection and does not predict for future cancer risks.



#### **Next step**

Continue with the SPOT–MAS test annually or other screens as recommended by your doctor. Do not ignore cancer signs or symptoms if they occur, as this could lead to a delayed diagnosis.



**Positive:**  
**ctDNA signal detected**

ctDNA signal associated with tumor cells was detected in the blood. The result may include 1–2 predictions of the origins of tumor in the body where the cancer may be found.



#### **Next step**

As the SPOT–MAS test is a screening test, a confirmatory imaging test is required to confirm if cancer is truly present. Your doctor will advise you on the required following tests.



#### **Patient Support Programs**

For patients with a positive test result, partial reimbursement for follow up diagnostic tests are available. Discuss with your doctor to learn more.



### Test Process:

- 01 Request the test through your primary care doctor.  
1 tube (10mL) of blood will be collected.
- 02 Your extracted DNA from the plasma will be processed using Next-generation sequencing to analyze methylation profile and multi-feature of DNA.
- 03 Receive your test results after 20 working days from the time sample is received at Gene Solutions Genomics Singapore laboratory.



### Contact

[infosg@genesolutions.com](mailto:infosg@genesolutions.com)  
[www.genesolutions.com](http://www.genesolutions.com)

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your healthcare provider  
or Gene Solutions  
to learn more.

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