

HHS Public Access

Curr Treat Options Gastroenterol. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2020 December 01.

Published in final edited form as:

Author manuscript

Curr Treat Options Gastroenterol. 2019 December; 17(4): 666-680. doi:10.1007/s11938-019-00261-2.

Effective Identification of Lynch Syndrome in Gastroenterology Practice

Charles Muller, MD¹, Lindsay Matthews, MD², Sonia S. Kupfer, MD¹, Jennifer M. Weiss, MD, MS^{2,3,*}

¹Section of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Department of Medicine, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

²Department of Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI, USA

³Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Department of Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, 1685 Highland Ave, Room 4200, Madison, WI, 53705, USA

Abstract

Purpose of review: Identification of Lynch syndrome is important from an individual patient and public health standpoint. As paradigms for Lynch syndrome diagnosis have shifted in recent years, this review will discuss rationale and limitations for current strategies as well as provide an overview of future directions in the field.

Recent findings: In recent years, the use of clinical criteria and risk scores for identification of Lynch syndrome have been augmented by universal testing of all newly diagnosed colorectal cancers with molecular methods to screen for mismatch repair deficiency with high sensitivity and specificity. Studies of implementation and outcomes of universal testing in clinical practice have demonstrated significant heterogeneity that results in suboptimal uptake and contributes to disparities in diagnosis. Emerging technologies, such as next-generation sequencing, hold significant promise as a screening strategy for Lynch syndrome.

Summary: Universal testing for Lynch syndrome is being performed with increasing frequency, although real-world outcomes have demonstrated room for improvement. Future directions in Lynch syndrome diagnosis will involve optimization of universal testing workflow and application of new genetics technologies.

Human and Animal Rights and Informed Consent

 $Terms \ of use \ and \ reuse: a cademic \ research \ for \ non-commercial \ purposes, see \ here \ for \ full \ terms. \ http://www.springer.com/gb/open-access/authors-rights/aam-terms-v1$

^{*}Correspondence jmw@medicine.wisc.edu.

Conflict of Interest

Charles Muller and Lindsay Matthews declares no conflict of interest.

This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects performed by any of the authors.

Publisher's Disclaimer: This Author Accepted Manuscript is a PDF file of a an unedited peer-reviewed manuscript that has been accepted for publication but has not been copyedited or corrected. The official version of record that is published in the journal is kept up to date and so may therefore differ from this version.

Keywords

Lynch syndrome; Amsterdam Criteria; Bethesda Guidelines; PREMM Model; Universal Tumor Screening

Introduction

Lynch syndrome is the most common cause of hereditary colorectal cancer (CRC), accounting for between 3–5% of all CRC cases [1]. Lynch syndrome results from a germline mutation in one of the four mismatch repair (MMR) genes (*MLH1, MSH2, MSH6,* or *PMS2*) or in the *EPCAM* gene that is located upstream of *MSH2*. Such deleterious mutations lead to accumulation of replication errors (insertions and deletions) within repetitive DNA sequences, known as microsatellite instability (MSI), and a predisposition to development of malignancy [2, 3].

In addition to having high rates of CRC with earlier age of onset, patients with Lynch syndrome are also at increased risk for endometrial, ovarian, gastric, small bowel, urothelial, pancreaticobiliary, brain, and sebaceous skin cancers [4, 5]. Identification of individuals with Lynch syndrome is crucial to enable implementation of life-saving cancer screening and risk-modification strategies in both affected individuals and their at-risk family members [6•–10]. Endoscopic surveillance of Lynch syndrome patients, for example, has been shown to reduce CRC-related mortality by up to 71% [11]. Underscoring the importance of Lynch syndrome diagnosis, the US Department of Health and Human Services included improving identification of individuals with Lynch Syndrome as one of its two genomics goals for the Healthy People 2020 initiative [12].

In this review, we will provide an overview of traditional clinical methods of Lynch syndrome diagnosis and their performance characteristics. We will also discuss the rationale for universal tumor testing as a cost-effective strategy with improved sensitivity and specificity compared to clinical methods. We will review the successes and limitations to implementation of universal testing in clinical practice and its associated outcomes and provide a brief overview of novel genetic tools, including next-generation sequencing, and their role in Lynch syndrome diagnosis.

Clinical criteria for diagnosing Lynch syndrome: Amsterdam Criteria and Bethesda Guidelines

The original Amsterdam Criteria were published in 1991 by the International Collaborative Group on Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colorectal Cancer (HNPCC) [13]. The purpose was to develop a minimum set of objective clinical criteria to aid in research on Lynch syndrome and were later adopted in clinical practice. All of these criteria, commonly referred to as the "3–2-1 rule", must be present for the diagnosis: (1) at least *three* relatives should have histologically verified CRC; one should be a first-degree relative to the other two, (2) spanning at least *two* successive generations, and (3) *one* of the CRCs should be diagnosed before 50 years of age [13]. In addition, a diagnosis of Familial Adenomatous Polyposis must be excluded. This initial set of criteria were criticized for focusing only on CRC and

were expanded in 1999, known as set of criteria were criticized for focusing only on CRC and were expanded in 1999, known as the Amsterdam II Criteria, to include extra-colonic malignancies associated with Lynch syndrome (endometrial, small bowel, ureter and renal pelvis) [14]. The purpose of the expanded criteria was to identify Lynch syndrome families that do not present with the colon-only Amsterdam I Criteria, such as families that include predominantly endometrial cancers due to an MSH6 mutation. Originally developed for research studies with a focus on specificity over sensitivity, performance of the Amsterdam II Criteria for clinical diagnosis is suboptimal with a sensitivity of 22% (range 13–67%) and a specificity of 98% (range 97–100%) [8•, 15–19]. In the clinic, high specificity of Amsterdam criteria means that a patient who meets these criteria is likely to have Lynch syndrome and should be referred for genetic testing. However, the low sensitivity of these criteria means that many individuals with Lynch syndrome will be missed and that these criteria should not be used as a screening test. Despite these limitations in performance characteristics, in our experience, insurance companies continue to use Amsterdam II Criteria as guidelines to approve germline genetic testing and therefore might deny coverage to individuals with Lynch syndrome who would benefit from testing.

As a means to improve sensitivity for identification of Lynch syndrome, the Bethesda Guidelines (1996) [20] and Revised Bethesda Guidelines (2004) [21] were developed which combine clinical and pathologic information to help identify individuals who should have further tumor testing for microsatellite instability (MSI), a hallmark of Lynch syndrome (Table 1) [8•, 22, 23]. Approximately 90% of Lynch syndrome-associated CRCs are MSI-high, supporting use of the Bethesda Guidelines as a potentially effective screening tool to identify individuals who should be referred for germline genetic testing [8•, 17, 24–26]. In comparison to the Amsterdam Criteria, the Bethesda Guidelines have a higher sensitivity in multiple studies ranging from 94–96%, but less specificity (25%-27%) [21, 27, 28]. Additionally, in the study by Syngal *et al.* [28] although individuals who met the Bethesda Guidelines were more likely to be referred for genetic testing, the majority did not complete testing indicating that family history is still underused in clinical practice [21]. At this point, the Bethesda guidelines are becoming largely irrelevant due to the implementation of universal tumor testing which is discussed later in the review.

Family history screening tools

Family history is a critical component of cancer risk assessment and is incorporated into the Amsterdam Criteria and Bethesda Guidelines; however, both of these clinical criteria are inconvenient for daily practice and have suboptimal test characteristics. In addition, completeness and accuracy of physician-collected family histories are often lacking when compared to self-administered family cancer history questionnaires [29], and some patients lack knowledge of family history [30]. In order to improve test characteristics compared to older criteria, multiple family history screening tools have been developed for ease of use in routine clinical practice, however, they still require patient knowledge of family history. Kastrinos *et al.* [31], developed a simple, risk assessment tool that includes the following three questions: (1) Do you have a first-degree relative (mother, father, brother, sister or child) with any of the following conditions diagnosed before age 50? Colon or rectal cancer, cancer of the uterus, ovary, stomach, small intestine, urinary tract (kidney, ureter, bladder),

bile ducts, pancreas, or brain; (2) Have you had any of the following conditions diagnosed before age 50? Colon or rectal cancer, colon or rectal polyps; (3) Do you have three or more relatives with a history of colon or rectal cancer (this includes parents, brothers, sisters, children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins)? Individuals who answer yes to any question should be referred for additional assessment or genetic evaluation. This threequestion tool successfully identified 77% of high-risk individuals and 95% of mutation carriers and was easily incorporated into an open-access colonoscopy program [31]. Gunaratnam et al. [32] integrated the three-question CRC risk assessment tool [31] into their electronic template for scheduling outpatient colonoscopy procedures. Answering "yes" to at least one of the three questions resulted in an immediate electronic alert, as well as a printed alert for the colonoscopist to encourage discussion and possible referral to genetics clinic. They were able to demonstrate the feasibility of integrating this simple cancer risk assessment tool in a busy community-based, open-access colonoscopy practice. Unfortunately, only a small percent of individuals who screened positive (9%, N=77/848 patients) were actually referred for genetic counseling [32], suggesting that a more systematic process is necessary to ensure that individuals potentially at-risk for Lynch syndrome complete the work-up with a genetic counseling referral and germline genetic testing, if indicated.

In an attempt to increase the specificity of the previously described three-question tool for identifying patients at highest risk for genetic syndromes, Guivatchian *et al.* [33] increased the age at diagnosis of Lynch syndrome-associated cancers in first-degree relatives from 50 to 60 and expanded the tool to include the following: (1) Do you have a first-degree relative diagnosed with colon polyps before the age of 60? (2) Have you had any of the following diagnosed before age 50? Cancer of the uterus, ovary, stomach, small intestine, urinary tract (kidney, ureter, bladder), bile ducts, pancreas, or brain; (3) Have you had a total of 10 or more colon polyps removed in your lifetime? More than 98% of the 700 patients recruited for the study successfully completed the expanded five-question tool, providing a CRC risk assessment that was immediately relevant to patient care in an outpatient colonoscopy setting [33].

Prediction models

Multiple computerized prediction models have been developed that offer a quantitative systematic approach to identify an individual's risk for carrying a germline mutation in a DNA mismatch repair gene. These models incorporate both clinical features, as well as family history and have comparative performance with the previously described clinical criteria [15, 18, 34, 35]. The first three models, MMRpredict [15], MMRpro [36], and PREMM_{1,2} [37], were developed in 2006 with more recent iterations of the PREMM model in 2011 and 2017 (Table 2) [38, 39••]. MMRpredict [15] was developed in a cohort of 870 patients with CRC under the age of 55 who underwent germline genetic testing for mutations in *MLH1, MSH2*, and *MSH6*. The two-stage multivariable logistic regression model included only clinical variables in the first stage and incorporated tumor test results for immunohistochemical (IHC) staining and MSI in the second stage. MMRpro [36] involves the application of Bayes rule and mendelian laws and includes more extensive family history for both first- and second-degree relatives. While performance is comparable

to MMRpredict (Table 2), MMRpro requires knowledge of more extensive family history, and does not include information about tumor location or other Lynch syndrome-associated cancers besides endometrial cancer. The PREMM_{1,2} model [37] incorporates other Lynch syndrome-associated cancers, but was only developed to predict risk of germline mutations in *MLH1* and *MSH2*. In 2011, PREMM_{1,2} was expanded to the PREMM_{1,2,6} model [38] to include predictions for mutations in*MSH6*. A cutoff score of 5% is used for all of these models to recommend further workup with genetic counseling referral and consideration for germline genetic testing. These 3 models have comparable sensitivity and specificity with variable ease of use [40]. However, it is important to note that all of these models were primarily developed focusing on CRC. Mercado *et al.* [41] examined the performance of MMRpredict, MMRpro, and PREMM_{1,2,6} in detecting Lynch syndrome among individuals with endometrial cancer and found much lower discrimination using the 5% cutoff (AUC 0.64, 0.54, and 0.67, respectively).

The newest iteration of the PREMM models, PREMM₅, incorporates quantification of an individual's risk of carrying a pathogenic germline mutation in all five Lynch syndrome genes (including PMS2 and EPCAM) to provide a more comprehensive risk assessment [39••]. Kastrinos et al. [39••] used clinical and germline data from over 18,000 individuals with germline genetic testing for all five genes to develop this model and compared its performance to PREMM_{1.2.6}. At scores 2.5%, the performance characteristics of PREMM₅ surpassed PREMM_{1,2,6} even for asymptomatic individuals and those with a PMS2 mutation [39...]. In their paper, Kastrinos et al. [39...] mention two major advantages to using PREMM₅. One is the performance in individuals unaffected by cancer. Previous versions of the predictive models were developed and validated in cohorts where a majority of individuals had cancer [15, 34, 36, 40–43], while 46% of the development cohort for the PREMM₅ model had no personal history of cancer but had a family history of Lynch syndrome-associated cancers. The second advantage is that PREMM₅ does not require information about molecular tumor testing to make a prediction of an individual's risk for having Lynch syndrome. PREMM₅ is simple, publicly available without the need to download any software (https://premm.dfci.harvard.edu/) and easy to use at point-of-care to quickly identify individuals who might benefit from germline genetic testing for Lynch syndrome.

Universal testing

Universal laboratory-based tumor testing for Lynch Syndrome.—Clinical history-based tools such as Amsterdam II and revised Bethesda criteria have been used for years to identify patients with Lynch syndrome and guide decisions regarding genetic testing. However, these tools have been shown to miss up to 28% of Lynch syndrome cases even when used correctly [44]. Moreover, screening modalities based on family history have potential to contribute to racial and ethnic disparities in Lynch syndrome diagnosis, as minority patients are less likely to be asked about family history by providers [45] or to be able to provide extensive family history information when asked [30]. Acknowledging these limitations, laboratory-based methods to detect mismatch repair deficiency in CRC tumors using IHC of MMR proteins or molecular testing for MSI have gained wider acceptance as

an adjunctive method to identify patients with cancer and their family members at risk for Lynch syndrome (Figure 1).

Universal tumor screening refers to the use of these molecular methods in all newly diagnosed CRCs to identify individuals at risk for Lynch syndrome. These strategies are aimed at identifying the approximately 15% of colorectal tumors with MMR deficiency [2]. MMR deficient tumors can arise as a result of a germline mutation in one of the MMR genes, as in Lynch syndrome, or from sporadic epigenetic silencing of *MLH1* through promoter hypermethylation, which is present in approximately 70% of cases and is often associated with BRAF mutations [3, 46, 47]. A more recently described cause of abnormal IHC or MSI testing is double (or biallelic) MMR somatic mutations that appear to be almost as common as Lynch syndrome. Double somatic mutations acquire 2 somatic alterations (either mutations or loss of heterozygosity) leading to MSI-H cancers [48]. In our practice, paired germline and somatic testing is done in cases of abnormal tumor testing as it facilitates testing for all known causes of MSI-H tumors (germline mutation, *MLH1* promoter hypermethylation and double somatic mutations). Identification of sporadic microsatellite unstable tumors is important and can have management implications, as these tumors have improved response to immune therapies such as PD-1 inhibitors [49].

Tumor screening algorithms consist first of either polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques targeting a well-described set of microsatellites to detect MSI [22, 47] or IHC of tumors to detect loss of MMR proteins [50]. If initial tumor testing demonstrates MSI-H (defined as 3 or more microsatellite loci demonstrating altered length) [22] or loss of MLH1, further analysis is performed to detect sporadic MLH1 silencing due to MLH1 promoter hypermethylation or somatic BRAF mutation [51, 52]. If MLH1 promoter methylation testing and BRAF mutation analysis are negative or IHC demonstrates loss of MSH2 or MSH6, then further assessment with germline testing for Lynch syndrome is warranted [8•, 51]. One advantage of IHC over MSI testing, in addition to its decreased cost, is that the former method requires less tumor tissue. Up to 14% of tumor specimens provide insufficient or poor-quality DNA for completion of PCR-based MSI testing [53, 54]. IHC has also been shown to reliably detect MMR deficiency in colorectal biopsy specimens [55, 56], allowing for diagnosis of Lynch syndrome to help inform treatment decisions before tumor resection. IHC has the added benefit of identifying the likely gene target affected, which can facilitate downstream germline testing. Both laboratory-based screening tests have been shown to significantly outperform clinical assessment tools at identification of patients with Lynch syndrome. The sensitivity of MSI testing and IHC are 77-91% and 83%, respectively, while the specificity for each method is approximately 90% [57].

Cost-effectiveness of universal tumor testing.—A key step in the adoption of universal tumor testing for Lynch syndrome in newly diagnosed CRCs is demonstration that it is cost-effective. Some "universal" screening strategies that have been studied employ age cutoff criteria, wherein molecular screening methods are only used in cases under a certain age, enabling lower costs with a potentially small decrease in sensitivity [58]. Strategies employing age restrictions of 50 and 70 can miss up to 50% and 15% of Lynch syndrome patients, respectively [59, 60]. As a result, most analyses have shown that truly universal testing strategies are cost-effective when compared to either no screening or to strategies

limiting screening to those younger than 50 [61]. Although few studies have compared universal tumor testing to selective testing with an age cutoff of 70, one study did demonstrate universal testing to have an acceptable incremental cost effectiveness ratio (ICER) [61]. Given comparable performance characteristics and lower cost, multiple analyses have shown that IHC is the more cost-effective of the laboratory-based strategies when compared to MSI testing [62, 63••]. By allowing identification and surveillance of additional mutation carriers, cascade testing of second-degree or higher order relatives has been demonstrated to be crucial to cost-effectiveness of universal testing [61]. Indeed, costeffectiveness of universal testing is improved as more relatives are tested, with most studies demonstrating that acceptable ICER is reached when 2–3 relatives undergo cascade testing [63••]. Selective CRC screening strategies using either clinical criteria or risk prediction models as screening prior to tumor or germline testing have not been shown to be as costeffective as universal approaches [61, 64].

Implementation of universal tumor testing.—The improved performance characteristics of molecular-based methods to detect patients with Lynch syndrome as well as cost-effectiveness has led several societies to advocate for universal testing of all newly diagnosed CRCs for MMR deficiency with either IHC or PCR-based MSI testing [8, 57, 65, 66•]. Universal testing was first proposed by Hampel et al. in 2008 [44], but has been more widely adopted in national guidelines as of 2014 [8•, 66•]. Despite these endorsements, widespread adoption of universal tumor screening to date has been slow, with tumor testing rates as low as 21–28% [67, 68]. Large academic centers and National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers have led the way with early implementation of successful universal screening programs [50, 69], while performance among community practices has lagged, but has improved over time [67]. Population-based studies have demonstrated that universal tumor testing is performed less often in underserved and minority patients, suggesting that these groups are disproportionately affected by geographic and practice-based variation in performance of tumor testing [67, 68, 70]. Frequently cited barriers to implementation of universal tumor testing include unfamiliarity with guidelines, concerns about cost, lack of laboratory or genetics services, inadequate stakeholder involvement, and absence of a universal testing "champion" or a designated department that claims responsibility for the universal testing program [71–73]. With these challenges in mind, concerted multi-disciplinary public health efforts are needed to overcome these barriers and optimize implementation of universal testing on a large scale [59].

For racial and ethnic minority groups, in whom Lynch syndrome is underdiagnosed [74–76], universal tumor testing holds promise when implemented successfully to level the playing field and remove traditional barriers to diagnosis including access to specialists and reliance on family history [30, 45, 68, 76]. However, studies of universal testing outcomes in "real-world" practice have shown that even when undergoing tumor screening at an equal rate with comparable rates of abnormal testing results, minority patients are still less likely than their non-Hispanic white counterparts to receive genetics referrals or undergo germline testing [69]. Although other studies have demonstrated heterogeneity and inadequacy of follow-up and downstream testing after abnormal tumor testing results in clinical practice [77, 78], minority patients are particularly vulnerable to these deficiencies [69]. Proposed

strategies to improve operations downstream of universal tumor testing include creation of a "champion" to follow-up testing results, automatic genetic counseling at post-operative visits to prevent loss to follow-up, and creation of centralized pathology cores to standardize testing procedures and reporting [59, 69, 77–79].

Next-generation tumor and germline sequencing.—With recent advances of nextgeneration sequencing technology and increasing use in clinical oncology, efforts have been made to use targeted next-generation sequencing to identify MMR deficiency in CRC [80-82]. Potential benefits include the ability to quantify tumor mutational burden as a surrogate for MSI status and to simultaneously identify other actionable mutations for which targeted mutation testing is already recommended by guidelines, such as *RAS* oncogene mutations, both of which can impact therapeutic decisions [81, 83, 84]. Sensitivities over 90% have been reported for MSI testing by next-generation sequencing [80-82, 85]. Universal tumor sequencing has also been demonstrated to outperform traditional multi-step universal tumor testing strategies in identifying Lynch syndrome patients specifically, with a sensitivity of 100% in one cohort [54]. Development of targeted next-generation sequencing for microsatellite instability is not without limitations. The panel used by Nowak et al. [81], for example produced false positive detections in tumors with POLE mutations, which also harbor a hypermutated phenotype. Specificity of this approach for identification of MMR deficiency was still 98%, and discrimination of POLE-mutated tumors was achieved through sequencing of *POLE* genes, highlighting the powerful potential of sequencing approaches.

Such tumor sequencing methods of screening for Lynch syndrome may create ethical questions regarding informed consent as a genetic test. Whereas current methods for universal tumor testing do not directly identify pathogenic mutations and therefore do not require rigorous informed patient consent [71, 86], next generation sequencing is being promoted in part because of its ability to guide downstream germline testing through identification of pathogenic mutations in MMR genes or even in other cancer-susceptibility genes unrelated to Lynch syndrome [54]. Patients with pathogenic MMR mutations identified from tumor sequencing would still require germline testing, but less costly single-mutation confirmatory testing could be used instead of full gene sequencing or multi-gene panel testing [81].

Conclusion

Identification of patients with Lynch syndrome has significant implications for individual patients, their families, and our healthcare system as a whole. Given the profound impact of effective and timely diagnosis on an individual and population level, strategies to improve diagnosis in a cost-effective and equitable manner are a public health priority. Newer clinical risk assessment tools have improved test characteristics over traditional criteria and can be used in busy practices especially for unaffected individuals with family history of Lynch syndrome-associated cancers. Universal tumor testing represents an improved strategy for Lynch syndrome identification among cancer patients and is endorsed by major societies. Although implementation of universal tumor testing in clinical practice is improving over time, there is heterogeneity across practices in adherence to recommendations and follow up.

Next generation sequencing represents the next frontier in identification of Lynch syndrome patients and also has implications for treatment and prognosis.

Acknowledgments

Grant Support

Support was provided in part by NIH R01 CA220329 (SSK) and grant MRSG-13–144-01-CPHPS from the American Cancer Society (JMW).

Compliance with Ethical Standards

Sonia Kupfer reports non-financial support from Myriad Genetics for collaborative research, outside the submitted work. Jennifer Weiss reports grants from American Cancer Society, during the conduct of the study; personal fees from American College of Physicians as an Editor of MKSAP 18 Board Basics Gastroenterology and Hepatology Section, outside the submitted work.

References

Papers of particular interest, published recently, have been highlighted as:

- Of importance
- •• Of major importance
- 1. Jasperson KW, Tuohy TM, Neklason DW, Burt RW. Hereditary and familial colon cancer. Gastroenterology. 2010;138:2044–58. [PubMed: 20420945]
- Grady WM, Carethers JM. Genomic and epigenetic instability in colorectal cancer pathogenesis. Gastroenterology. 2008;135:1079–99. [PubMed: 18773902]
- Boland CR, Goel A. Microsatellite instability in colorectal cancer. Gastroenterology. 2010;138:2073–87.e3. [PubMed: 20420947]
- Stoffel E, Mukherjee B, Raymond VM, Tayob N, Kastrinos F, Sparr J, Wang F, Bandipalliam P, Syngal S, Gruber SB. Calculation of risk of colorectal and endometrial cancer among patients with Lynch syndrome. Gastroenterology. 2009;137:1621–7. [PubMed: 19622357]
- 5. Bonadona V, Bonaïti B, Olschwang S, Grandjouan S, Huiart L, Longy M, Guimbaud R, Buecher B, Bignon YJ, Caron O, Colas C, Noguès C, Lejeune-Dumoulin S, Olivier-Faivre L, Polycarpe-Osaer F, Nguyen TD, Desseigne F, Saurin JC, Berthet P, Leroux D, Duffour J, Manouvrier S, Frébourg T, Sobol H, Lasset C, Bonaïti-Pellié C, Network FCG. Cancer risks associated with germline mutations in MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 genes in Lynch syndrome. JAMA. 2011;305:2304–10. [PubMed: 21642682]
- 6•. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Genetic/familial high-risk assessment: Colorectal (Version 1.2018). Accessed August 27, 2019 Accessible at https://www.nccn.org/store/login/ login.aspx?ReturnURL=https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/ genetics_colon.pdfThe NCCN guidelines provide expert opinion on the evaluation and management of Lynch syndrome. These guidelines are updated annually.
- 7. Burn J, Gerdes AM, Macrae F, Mecklin JP, Moeslein G, Olschwang S, Eccles D, Evans DG, Maher ER, Bertario L, Bisgaard ML, Dunlop MG, Ho JW, Hodgson SV, LindblomLubinski J, Morrison PJ, Murday V, Ramesar R, Side L, Scott RJ, Thomas HJ, Vasen HF, Barker G, Crawford G, Elliott F, Movahedi M, Pylvanainen K, Wijnen JT, Fodde R, Lynch HT, Mathers JC, Bishop DT, Investigators C. Long-term effect of aspirin on cancer risk in carriers of hereditary colorectal cancer: an analysis from the CAPP2 randomised controlled trial. Lancet. 2011;378:2081–7. [PubMed: 22036019]
- 8•. Giardiello FM, Allen JI, Axilbund JE, Boland CR, Burke CA, Burt RW, Church JM, Dominitz JA, Johnson DA, Kaltenbach T, Levin TR, Lieberman DA, Robertson DJ, Syngal S, Rex DK. Guidelines on genetic evaluation and management of Lynch syndrome: a consensus statement by the US Multi-society Task Force on colorectal cancer. Am J Gastroenterol. 2014;109:1159–79.

[PubMed: 25070057] Multi-society task force guidelines on genetic evaluation and management of Lynch syndrome with evidence-based recommendations.

- Järvinen HJ, Aarnio M, Mustonen H, Aktan-Collan K, Aaltonen LA, Peltomäki P, De La Chapelle A, Mecklin JP. Controlled 15-year trial on screening for colorectal cancer in families with hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer. Gastroenterology. 2000;118:829–34. [PubMed: 10784581]
- Schmeler KM, Lynch HT, Chen LM, Munsell MF, Soliman PT, Clark MB, Daniels MS, White KG, Boyd-Rogers SG, Conrad PG, Yang KY, Rubin MM, Sun CC, Slomovitz BM, Gershenson DM, Lu KH. Prophylactic surgery to reduce the risk of gynecologic cancers in the Lynch syndrome. N Engl J Med. 2006;354:261–9. [PubMed: 16421367]
- Dove-Edwin I, Sasieni P, Adams J, Thomas HJ. Prevention of colorectal cancer by colonoscopic surveillance in individuals with a family history of colorectal cancer: 16 year, prospective, followup study. BMJ. 2005;331:1047. [PubMed: 16243849]
- United Stated Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2020. In: Genomics. Accessed August 1, 2019 Accessible at https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/ topic/genomics.
- Vasen HF, Mecklin JP, Khan PM, Lynch HT. The International Collaborative Group on Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colorectal Cancer (ICG-HNPCC). Dis Colon Rectum. 1991;34:424–5. [PubMed: 2022152]
- Vasen HF, Watson P, Mecklin JP, Lynch HT. New clinical criteria for hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC, Lynch syndrome) proposed by the International Collaborative group on HNPCC. Gastroenterology. 1999;116:1453–6. [PubMed: 10348829]
- Barnetson RA, Tenesa A, Farrington SM, Nicholl ID, Cetnarskyj R, Porteous ME, Campbell H, Dunlop MG. Identification and survival of carriers of mutations in DNA mismatch-repair genes in colon cancer. N Engl J Med. 2006;354:2751–63. [PubMed: 16807412]
- Hampel H, Frankel WL, Martin E, Arnold M, Khanduja K, Kuebler P, Nakagawa H, Sotamaa K, Prior TW, Westman J, Panescu J, Fix D, Lockman J, Comeras I, de la Chapelle A. Screening for the Lynch syndrome (hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer). N Engl J Med. 2005;352:1851– 60. [PubMed: 15872200]
- Salovaara R, Loukola A, Kristo P, Kaariainen H, Ahtola H, Eskelinen M, Harkonen N, Julkunen R, Kangas E, Ojala S, Tulikoura J, Valkamo E, Jarvinen H, Mecklin JP, Aaltonen LA, de la Chapelle A. Population-based molecular detection of hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2000;18:2193–200. [PubMed: 10829038]
- 18. Balmana J, Balaguer F, Castellvi-Bel S, Steyerberg EW, Andreu M, Llor X, Jover R, Castells A, Syngal S, Gastrointestinal Oncology Group of the Spanish Gastroenterological A. Comparison of predictive models, clinical criteria and molecular tumour screening for the identification of patients with Lynch syndrome in a population-based cohort of colorectal cancer patients. J Med Genet. 2008;45:557–63. [PubMed: 18603628]
- Green RC, Parfrey PS, Woods MO, Younghusband HB. Prediction of Lynch syndrome in consecutive patients with colorectal cancer. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2009;101:331–40. [PubMed: 19244167]
- Rodriguez-Bigas MA, Boland CR, Hamilton SR, Henson DE, Jass JR, Khan PM, Lynch H, Perucho M, Smyrk T, Sobin L, Srivastava S. A National Cancer Institute Workshop on Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer Syndrome: meeting highlights and Bethesda guidelines. J Natl Cancer Inst. 1997;89:1758–62. [PubMed: 9392616]
- 21. Umar A, Boland CR, Terdiman JP, Syngal S, de la Chapelle A, Ruschoff J, Fishel R, Lindor NM, Burgart LJ, Hamelin R, Hamilton SR, Hiatt RA, Jass J, Lindblom A, Lynch HT, Peltomaki P, Ramsey SD, Rodriguez-Bigas MA, Vasen HF, Hawk ET, Barrett JC, Freedman AN, Srivastava S. Revised Bethesda Guidelines for hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (Lynch syndrome) and microsatellite instability. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2004;96:261–8. [PubMed: 14970275]
- 22. Boland CR, Thibodeau SN, Hamilton SR, Sidransky D, Eshleman JR, Burt RW, Meltzer SJ, Rodriguez-Bigas MA, Fodde R, Ranzani GN, Srivastava S. A National Cancer Institute Workshop on Microsatellite Instability for cancer detection and familial predisposition: development of international criteria for the determination of microsatellite instability in colorectal cancer. Cancer Res. 1998;58:5248–57. [PubMed: 9823339]

- Niessen RC, Hofstra RM, Westers H, Ligtenberg MJ, Kooi K, Jager PO, de Groote ML, Dijkhuizen T, Olderode-Berends MJ, Hollema H, Kleibeuker JH, Sijmons RH. Germline hypermethylation of MLH1 and EPCAM deletions are a frequent cause of Lynch syndrome. Genes Chromosomes Cancer. 2009;48:737–44. [PubMed: 19455606]
- 24. Aaltonen LA, Salovaara R, Kristo P, Canzian F, Hemminki A, Peltomaki P, Chadwick RB, Kaariainen H, Eskelinen M, Jarvinen H, Mecklin JP, de la Chapelle A. Incidence of hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer and the feasibility of molecular screening for the disease. N Engl J Med. 1998;338:1481–7. [PubMed: 9593786]
- 25. Lamberti C, Kruse R, Ruelfs C, Caspari R, Wang Y, Jungck M, Mathiak M, Malayeri HR, Friedl W, Sauerbruch T, Propping P. Microsatellite instability-a useful diagnostic tool to select patients at high risk for hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer: a study in different groups of patients with colorectal cancer. Gut. 1999;44:839–43. [PubMed: 10323887]
- 26. Pinol V, Castells A, Andreu M, Castellvi-Bel S, Alenda C, Llor X, Xicola RM, Rodriguez-Moranta F, Paya A, Jover R, Bessa X, Gastrointestinal Oncology Group of the Spanish Gastroenterological Association. Accuracy of revised Bethesda guidelines, microsatellite instability, and immunohistochemistry for the identification of patients with hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer. JAMA. 2005;293:1986–94. [PubMed: 15855432]
- Terdiman JP, Gum JR, Jr, Conrad PG, Miller GA, Weinberg V, Crawley SC, Levin TR, Reeves C, Schmitt A, Hepburn M, Sleisenger MH, Kim YS. Efficient detection of hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer gene carriers by screening for tumor microsatellite instability before germline genetic testing. Gastroenterology. 2001;120:21–30. [PubMed: 11208710]
- Syngal S, Fox EA, Eng C, Kolodner RD, Garber JE. Sensitivity and specificity of clinical criteria for hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer associated mutations in MSH2 and MLH1. J Med Genet. 2000;37:641–5. [PubMed: 10978352]
- Grover S, Stoffel EM, Bussone L, Tschoegl E, Syngal S. Physician assessment of family cancer history and referral for genetic evaluation in colorectal cancer patients. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2004;2:813–9. [PubMed: 15354282]
- Kupfer SS, McCaffrey S, Kim KE. Racial and gender disparities in hereditary colorectal cancer risk assessment: the role of family history. J Cancer Educ. 2006;21:S32–6. [PubMed: 17020499]
- Kastrinos F, Allen JI, Stockwell DH, Stoffel EM, Cook EF, Mutinga ML, Balmana J, Syngal S. Development and validation of a colon cancer risk assessment tool for patients undergoing colonoscopy. Am J Gastroenterol. 2009;104:1508–18. [PubMed: 19491864]
- Gunaratnam NT, Akce M, Al Natour R, Bartley AN, Fioritto AF, Hanson K, Ladabaum U. Screening for Cancer Genetic Syndromes With a Simple Risk-Assessment Tool in a Community-Based Open-Access Colonoscopy Practice. Am J Gastroenterol. 2016;111:589–93. [PubMed: 27021195]
- 33. Guivatchian T, Koeppe ES, Baker JR, Moisa C, Demerath M, Foor-Pessin C, Chey WD, Eswaran SL, Kolars JC, Menees SB, Rajala M, Rice MD, Rizk R, Rubenstein JH, Sharma P, Todisco A, Stoffel EM. Family history in colonoscopy patients: feasibility and performance of electronic and paper-based surveys for colorectal cancer risk assessment in the outpatient setting. Gastrointest Endosc. 2017;86:684–91. [PubMed: 28174125]
- 34. Win AK, Macinnis RJ, Dowty JG, Jenkins MA. Criteria and prediction models for mismatch repair gene mutations: a review. J Med Genet. 2013;50:785–93. [PubMed: 23956446]
- 35. Tresallet C, Brouquet A, Julie C, Beauchet A, Vallot C, Menegaux F, Mitry E, Radvanyi F, Malafosse R, Rougier P, Nordlinger B, Laurent-Puig P, Boileau C, Emile JF, Muti C, Penna C, Hofmann-Radvanyi H. Evaluation of predictive models in daily practice for the identification of patients with Lynch syndrome. Int J Cancer. 2012;130:1367–77. [PubMed: 21520036]
- 36. Chen S, Wang W, Lee S, Nafa K, Lee J, Romans K, Watson P, Gruber SB, Euhus D, Kinzler KW, Jass J, Gallinger S, Lindor NM, Casey G, Ellis N, Giardiello FM, Offit K, Parmigiani G, Colon Cancer Family Registry. Prediction of germline mutations and cancer risk in the Lynch syndrome. JAMA. 2006;296:1479–87. [PubMed: 17003396]
- Balmana J, Stockwell DH, Steyerberg EW, Stoffel EM, Deffenbaugh AM, Reid JE, Ward B, Scholl T, Hendrickson B, Tazelaar J, Burbidge LA, Syngal S. Prediction of MLH1 and MSH2 mutations in Lynch syndrome. JAMA. 2006;296:1469–78. [PubMed: 17003395]

- 38. Kastrinos F, Steyerberg EW, Mercado R, Balmana J, Holter S, Gallinger S, Siegmund KD, Church JM, Jenkins MA, Lindor NM, Thibodeau SN, Burbidge LA, Wenstrup RJ, Syngal S. The PREMM(1,2,6) model predicts risk of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 germline mutations based on cancer history. Gastroenterology. 2011;140:73–81. [PubMed: 20727894]
- 39••. Kastrinos F, Uno H, Ukaegbu C, Alvero C, McFarland A, Yurgelun MB, Kulke MH, Schrag D, Meyerhardt JA, Fuchs CS, Mayer RJ, Ng K, Steyerberg EW, Syngal S. Development and Validation of the PREMM5 Model for Comprehensive Risk Assessment of Lynch Syndrome. J Clin Oncol. 2017;35:2165–72. [PubMed: 28489507] Validation of PREMM5 model for identification of Lynch syndrome risk using data from over 18,000 tested individuals and validated in over 1,000 individuals.
- 40. Khan O, Blanco A, Conrad P, Gulden C, Moss TZ, Olopade OI, Kupfer SS, Terdiman J. Performance of Lynch syndrome predictive models in a multi-center US referral population. Am J Gastroenterol. 2011;106:1822–7. [PubMed: 21747416]
- 41. Mercado RC, Hampel H, Kastrinos F, Steyerberg E, Balmana J, Stoffel E, Cohn DE, Backes FJ, Hopper JL, Jenkins MA, Lindor NM, Casey G, Haile R, Madhavan S, de la Chapelle A, Syngal S, Colon Cancer Family Registry. Performance of PREMM(1,2,6), MMRpredict, and MMRpro in detecting Lynch syndrome among endometrial cancer cases. Genet Med. 2012;14:670–80. [PubMed: 22402756]
- 42. Balaguer F, Balmana J, Castellvi-Bel S, Steyerberg EW, Andreu M, Llor X, Jover R, Syngal S, Castells A, Gastrointestinal Oncology Group of the Spanish Gastroenterological Association. Validation and extension of the PREMM1,2 model in a population-based cohort of colorectal cancer patients. Gastroenterology. 2008;134:39–46. [PubMed: 18061181]
- 43. Kastrinos F, Steyerberg EW. Family matters in lynch syndrome. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2015;107.
- 44. Hampel H, Frankel WL, Martin E, Arnold M, Khanduja K, Kuebler P, Clendenning M, Sotamaa K, Prior T, Westman JA, Panescu J, Fix D, Lockman J, LaJeunesse J, Comeras I, de la Chapelle A. Feasibility of screening for Lynch syndrome among patients with colorectal cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2008;26:5783–8. [PubMed: 18809606]
- 45. Shields HM, Stoffel EM, Chung DC, Sequist TD, Li JW, Pelletier SR, Spencer J, Silk JM, Austin BL, Diguette S, Furbish JE, Lederman R, Weingart SN. Disparities in evaluation of patients with rectal bleeding 40 years and older. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2014;12:669–75; quiz e33. [PubMed: 23891918]
- 46. Parsons MT, Buchanan DD, Thompson B, Young JP, Spurdle AB. Correlation of tumour BRAF mutations and MLH1 methylation with germline mismatch repair (MMR) gene mutation status: a literature review assessing utility of tumour features for MMR variant classification. J Med Genet. 2012;49:151–7. [PubMed: 22368298]
- Gelsomino F, Barbolini M, Spallanzani A, Pugliese G, Cascinu S. The evolving role of microsatellite instability in colorectal cancer: A review. Cancer Treat Rev. 2016;51:19–26. [PubMed: 27838401]
- 48. Pearlman R, Hampel H., de la Chepelle A., Goldberg R., Ciombor K., Arnold M., Lattimer I., Frankel W., Zhao W., Jones D., Yilmaz A., Pritchard C., Kalady M., Heald B. Ohio colorectal cancer prevention initiative. Familial Cancer. 2017;16:S48.
- Prasad V, Kaestner V, Mailankody S. Cancer Drugs Approved Based on Biomarkers and Not Tumor Type-FDA Approval of Pembrolizumab for Mismatch Repair-Deficient Solid Cancers. JAMA Oncol. 2018;4:157–8. [PubMed: 29285544]
- 50. Beamer LC, Grant ML, Espenschied CR, Blazer KR, Hampel HL, Weitzel JN, MacDonald DJ. Reflex immunohistochemistry and microsatellite instability testing of colorectal tumors for Lynch syndrome among US cancer programs and follow-up of abnormal results. J Clin Oncol. 2012;30:1058–63. [PubMed: 22355048]
- Palomaki GE, McClain MR, Melillo S, Hampel HL, Thibodeau SN. EGAPP supplementary evidence review: DNA testing strategies aimed at reducing morbidity and mortality from Lynch syndrome. Genet Med. 2009;11:42–65. [PubMed: 19125127]
- 52. Weisenberger DJ, Siegmund KD, Campan M, Young J, Long TI, Faasse MA, Kang GH, Widschwendter M, Weener D, Buchanan D, Koh H, Simms L, Barker M, Leggett B, Levine J, Kim M, French AJ, Thibodeau SN, Jass J, Haile R, Laird PW. CpG island methylator phenotype

underlies sporadic microsatellite instability and is tightly associated with BRAF mutation in colorectal cancer. Nat Genet. 2006;38:787–93. [PubMed: 16804544]

- 53. Pearlman R, Frankel WL, Swanson B, Zhao W, Yilmaz A, Miller K, Bacher J, Bigley C, Nelsen L, Goodfellow PJ, Goldberg RM, Paskett E, Shields PG, Freudenheim JL, Stanich PP, Lattimer I, Arnold M, Liyanarachchi S, Kalady M, Heald B, Greenwood C, Paquette I, Prues M, Draper DJ, Lindeman C, Kuebler JP, Reynolds K, Brell JM, Shaper AA, Mahesh S, Buie N, Weeman K, Shine K, Haut M, Edwards J, Bastola S, Wickham K, Khanduja KS, Zacks R, Pritchard CC, Shirts BH, Jacobson A, Allen B, de la Chapelle A, Hampel H, Group OCCPIS. Prevalence and Spectrum of Germline Cancer Susceptibility Gene Mutations Among Patients With Early-Onset Colorectal Cancer. JAMA Oncol. 2017;3:464–71. [PubMed: 27978560]
- 54. Hampel H, Pearlman R, Beightol M, Zhao W, Jones D, Frankel WL, Goodfellow PJ, Yilmaz A, Miller K, Bacher J, Jacobson A, Paskett E, Shields PG, Goldberg RM, de la Chapelle A, Shirts BH, Pritchard CC, Group OCCPIS. Assessment of Tumor Sequencing as a Replacement for Lynch Syndrome Screening and Current Molecular Tests for Patients With Colorectal Cancer. JAMA Oncol. 2018;4:806–13. [PubMed: 29596542]
- 55. Shia J, Stadler Z, Weiser MR, Rentz M, Gonen M, Tang LH, Vakiani E, Katabi N, Xiong X, Markowitz AJ, Shike M, Guillem J, Klimstra DS. Immunohistochemical staining for DNA mismatch repair proteins in intestinal tract carcinoma: how reliable are biopsy samples? Am J Surg Pathol. 2011;35:447–54. [PubMed: 21297438]
- Cavazza A, Radia C, Harlow C, Monahan KJ. Experience of the implementation and outcomes of universal testing for Lynch syndrome in the United Kingdom. Colorectal Dis. 2019;21:760–6. [PubMed: 30815953]
- 57. Evaluation of Genomic Applications in Practice and Prevention (EGAPP) Working Group. Recommendations from the EGAPP Working Group: genetic testing strategies in newly diagnosed individuals with colorectal cancer aimed at reducing morbidity and mortality from Lynch syndrome in relatives. Genet Med. 2009;11:35–41. [PubMed: 19125126]
- 58. Li D, Hoodfar E, Jiang SF, Udaltsova N, Pham NP, Jodesty Y, Armstrong MA, Hung YY, Baker RJ, Postlethwaite D, Ladabaum U, Levin TR, Corley DA, Bergoffen J. Comparison of Universal Versus Age-Restricted Screening of Colorectal Tumors for Lynch Syndrome Using Mismatch Repair Immunohistochemistry: A Cohort Study. Ann Intern Med. 2019.
- 59. Bellcross CA, Bedrosian SR, Daniels E, Duquette D, Hampel H, Jasperson K, Joseph DA, Kaye C, Lubin I, Meyer LJ, Reyes M, Scheuner MT, Schully SD, Senter L, Stewart SL, St Pierre J, Westman J, Wise P, Yang VW, Khoury MJ. Implementing screening for Lynch syndrome among patients with newly diagnosed colorectal cancer: summary of a public health/clinical collaborative meeting. Genet Med. 2012;14:152–62. [PubMed: 22237445]
- 60. Moreira L, Balaguer F, Lindor N, de la Chapelle A, Hampel H, Aaltonen LA, Hopper JL, Le Marchand L, Gallinger S, Newcomb PA, Haile R, Thibodeau SN, Gunawardena S, Jenkins MA, Buchanan DD, Potter JD, Baron JA, Ahnen DJ, Moreno V, Andreu M, Ponz de Leon M, Rustgi AK, Castells A, Consortium E. Identification of Lynch syndrome among patients with colorectal cancer. JAMA. 2012;308:1555–65. [PubMed: 23073952]
- 61. Di Marco M, DAndrea E, Panic N, Baccolini V, Migliara G, Marzuillo C, De Vito C, Pastorino R, Boccia S, Villari P. Which Lynch syndrome screening programs could be implemented in the "real world"? A systematic review of economic evaluations. Genet Med. 2018;20:1131–44. [PubMed: 29300371]
- Mvundura M, Grosse SD, Hampel H, Palomaki GE. The cost-effectiveness of genetic testing strategies for Lynch syndrome among newly diagnosed patients with colorectal cancer. Genet Med. 2010;12:93–104. [PubMed: 20084010]
- 63••. Ladabaum U, Wang G, Terdiman J, Blanco A, Kuppermann M, Boland CR, Ford J, Elkin E, Phillips KA. Strategies to identify the Lynch syndrome among patients with colorectal cancer: a cost-effectiveness analysis. Ann Intern Med. 2011;155:69–79. [PubMed: 21768580] This paper examines the cost-effectiveness of universal tumor screening for Lynch syndrome.
- 64. Dotson WD, Douglas MP, Kolor K, Stewart AC, Bowen MS, Gwinn M, Wulf A, Anders HM, Chang CQ, Clyne M, Lam TK, Schully SD, Marrone M, Feero WG, Khoury MJ. Prioritizing genomic applications for action by level of evidence: a horizon-scanning method. Clin Pharmacol Ther. 2014;95:394–402. [PubMed: 24398597]

- 65. Weissman SM, Burt R, Church J, Erdman S, Hampel H, Holter S, Jasperson K, Kalady MF, Haidle JL, Lynch HT, Palaniappan S, Wise PE, Senter L. Identification of individuals at risk for Lynch syndrome using targeted evaluations and genetic testing: National Society of Genetic Counselors and the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Colorectal Cancer joint practice guideline. J Genet Couns. 2012;21:484–93. [PubMed: 22167527]
- 66•. Syngal S, Brand RE, Church JM, Giardiello FM, Hampel HL, Burt RW, American College of Gastroenterology. ACG clinical guideline: Genetic testing and management of hereditary gastrointestinal cancer syndromes. Am J Gastroenterol. 2015;110:223–62. [PubMed: 25645574] American College of Gastroenterology guidelines on evaluation of hereditary gastrointestinal cancer syndromes including Lynch syndrome.
- Shaikh T, Handorf EA, Meyer JE, Hall MJ, Esnaola NF. Mismatch Repair Deficiency Testing in Patients With Colorectal Cancer and Nonadherence to Testing Guidelines in Young Adults. JAMA Oncol. 2018;4:e173580.
- Karlitz JJ, Hsieh MC, Liu Y, Blanton C, Schmidt B, Jessup JM, Wu XC, Chen VW. Population-Based Lynch Syndrome Screening by Microsatellite Instability in Patients 50: Prevalence, Testing Determinants, and Result Availability Prior to Colon Surgery. Am J Gastroenterol. 2015;110:948–55. [PubMed: 25601013]
- 69. Muller C, Lee SM, Barge W, Siddique SM, Berera S, Wideroff G, Tondon R, Chang J, Peterson M, Stoll J, Katona BW, Sussman DA, Melson J, Kupfer SS. Low Referral Rate for Genetic Testing in Racially and Ethnically Diverse Patients Despite Universal Colorectal Cancer Screening. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2018;16:1911–8.e2. [PubMed: 30130624]
- Jain A, Shafer L, Rothenmund H, Kim CA, Samadder J, Gupta S, Singh H. Suboptimal Adherence in Clinical Practice to Guidelines Recommendation to Screen for Lynch Syndrome. Dig Dis Sci. 2019.
- Cohen SA. Current Lynch syndrome tumor screening practices: a survey of genetic counselors. J Genet Couns. 2014;23:38–47. [PubMed: 23674164]
- 72. Schneider JL, Davis J, Kauffman TL, Reiss JA, McGinley C, Arnold K, Zepp J, Gilmore M, Muessig KR, Syngal S, Acheson L, Wiesner GL, Peterson SK, Goddard KA. Stakeholder perspectives on implementing a universal Lynch syndrome screening program: a qualitative study of early barriers and facilitators. Genet Med. 2016;18:152–61. [PubMed: 25880440]
- Dicks E, Pullman D, Kao K, MacMillan A, Logan GS, Simmonds C, Etchegary H. Universal tumor screening for Lynch syndrome: Perceptions of Canadian pathologists and genetic counselors of barriers and facilitators. Cancer Med. 2019;8:3614–22. [PubMed: 31102338]
- 74. Guindalini RS, Win AK, Gulden C, Lindor NM, Newcomb PA, Haile RW, Raymond V, Stoffel E, Hall M, Llor X, Ukaegbu CI, Solomon I, Weitzel J, Kalady M, Blanco A, Terdiman J, Shuttlesworth GA, Lynch PM, Hampel H, Lynch HT, Jenkins MA, Olopade OI, Kupfer SS. Mutation spectrum and risk of colorectal cancer in African American families with Lynch syndrome. Gastroenterology. 2015;149:1446–53. [PubMed: 26248088]
- 75. Ricker CN, Hanna DL, Peng C, Nguyen NT, Stern MC, Schmit SL, Idos GE, Patel R, Tsai S, Ramirez V, Lin S, Shamasunadara V, Barzi A, Lenz HJ, Figueiredo JC. DNA mismatch repair deficiency and hereditary syndromes in Latino patients with colorectal cancer. Cancer. 2017;123:3732–43. [PubMed: 28640387]
- Hall MJ, Olopade OI. Disparities in genetic testing: thinking outside the BRCA box. J Clin Oncol. 2006;24:2197–203. [PubMed: 16682739]
- 77. O'Kane GM, Ryan E, McVeigh TP, Creavin B, Hyland JM, O'Donoghue DP, Keegan D, Geraghty R, Flannery D, Nolan C, Donovan E, Mehigan BJ, McCormick P, Muldoon C, Farrell M, Shields C, Mulligan N, Kennedy MJ, Green AJ, Winter DC, MacMathuna P, Sheahan K, Gallagher DJ. Screening for mismatch repair deficiency in colorectal cancer: data from three academic medical centers. Cancer Med. 2017;6:1465–72. [PubMed: 28470797]
- 78. Heald B, Plesec T, Liu X, Pai R, Patil D, Moline J, Sharp RR, Burke CA, Kalady MF, Church J, Eng C. Implementation of universal microsatellite instability and immunohistochemistry screening for diagnosing lynch syndrome in a large academic medical center. J Clin Oncol. 2013;31:1336– 40. [PubMed: 23401454]
- 79. Frolova AI, Babb SA, Zantow E, Hagemann AR, Powell MA, Thaker PH, Gao F, Mutch DG. Impact of an immunohistochemistry-based universal screening protocol for Lynch syndrome in

endometrial cancer on genetic counseling and testing. Gynecol Oncol. 2015;137:7–13. [PubMed: 25617771]

- Papke DJ, Nowak JA, Yurgelun MB, Frieden A, Srivastava A, Lindeman NI, Sholl LM, MacConaill LE, Dong F. Validation of a targeted next-generation sequencing approach to detect mismatch repair deficiency in colorectal adenocarcinoma. Mod Pathol. 2018;31:1882–90. [PubMed: 29955144]
- Nowak JA, Yurgelun MB, Bruce JL, Rojas-Rudilla V, Hall DL, Shivdasani P, Garcia EP, Agoston AT, Srivastava A, Ogino S, Kuo FC, Lindeman NI, Dong F. Detection of Mismatch Repair Deficiency and Microsatellite Instability in Colorectal Adenocarcinoma by Targeted Next-Generation Sequencing. J Mol Diagn. 2017;19:84–91. [PubMed: 27863258]
- 82. Stadler ZK, Battaglin F, Middha S, Hechtman JF, Tran C, Cercek A, Yaeger R, Segal NH, Varghese AM, Reidy-Lagunes DL, Kemeny NE, Salo-Mullen EE, Ashraf A, Weiser MR, Garcia-Aguilar J, Robson ME, Offit K, Arcila ME, Berger MF, Shia J, Solit DB, Saltz LB. Reliable Detection of Mismatch Repair Deficiency in Colorectal Cancers Using Mutational Load in Next-Generation Sequencing Panels. J Clin Oncol. 2016;34:2141–7. [PubMed: 27022117]
- 83. Le DT, Uram JN, Wang H, Bartlett BR, Kemberling H, Eyring AD, Skora AD, Luber BS, Azad NS, Laheru D, Biedrzycki B, Donehower RC, Zaheer A, Fisher GA, Crocenzi TS, Lee JJ, Duffy SM, Goldberg RM, de la Chapelle A, Koshiji M, Bhaijee F, Huebner T, Hruban RH, Wood LD, Cuka N, Pardoll DM, Papadopoulos N, Kinzler KW, Zhou S, Cornish TC, Taube JM, Anders RA, Eshleman JR, Vogelstein B, Diaz LA. PD-1 Blockade in Tumors with Mismatch-Repair Deficiency. N Engl J Med. 2015;372:2509–20. [PubMed: 26028255]
- 84. Pritchard CC, Salipante SJ, Koehler K, Smith C, Scroggins S, Wood B, Wu D, Lee MK, Dintzis S, Adey A, Liu Y, Eaton KD, Martins R, Stricker K, Margolin KA, Hoffman N, Churpek JE, Tait JF, King MC, Walsh T. Validation and implementation of targeted capture and sequencing for the detection of actionable mutation, copy number variation, and gene rearrangement in clinical cancer specimens. J Mol Diagn. 2014;16:56–67. [PubMed: 24189654]
- 85. Christakis AG, Papke DJ, Nowak JA, Yurgelun MB, Agoston AT, Lindeman NI, MacConaill LE, Sholl LM, Dong F. Targeted Cancer Next-Generation Sequencing as a Primary Screening Tool for Microsatellite Instability and Lynch Syndrome in Upper Gastrointestinal Tract Cancers. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2019;28:1246–51. [PubMed: 31028081]
- Chubak B, Heald B, Sharp RR. Informed consent to microsatellite instability and immunohistochemistry screening for Lynch syndrome. Genet Med. 2011;13:356–60. [PubMed: 21407081]
- 87. Colon Cancer Genetics Group. University of Edinburgh and MRC Human genetics Unit, Edinburgh. Prediction of DNA mismatch repair gene mutation status in incident colorectal cancer cases. Accessed August 16, 2019 Accessible at http://hnpccpredict.hgu.mrc.ac.uk/.
- BayesMendel Lab. Harvard University. MMRpro. Accessed August 16, 2019 Accessible at https:// projects.iq.harvard.edu/bayesmendel/mmrpro.
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. PREMM. Lynch syndrome prediction model. MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2, and EPCAM gene mutations. Accessed August 16, 2019 Accessible at https:// premmdfci.harvard.edu/.

Author Manuscript

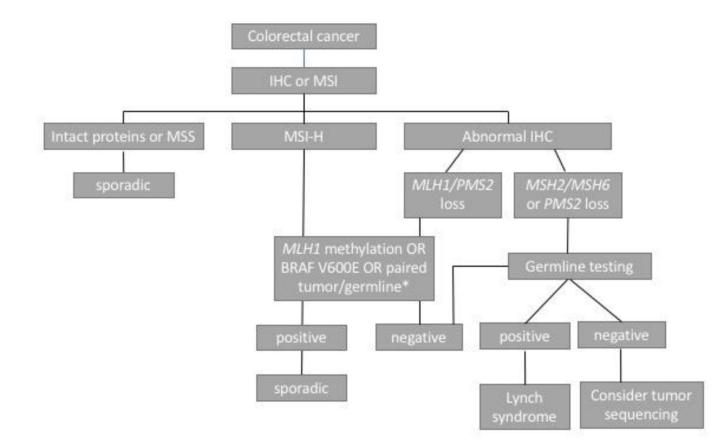


Figure 1. Algorithm for colorectal tumor testing for Lynch syndrome.

Testing can be done with immunohistochemistry (IHC) for mismatch repair proteins or microsatellite instability (MSI) testing by polymerase chain reaction. If testing reveals intact staining of proteins or microsatellite stability (MSS), this likely represents sporadic cancer in the absence of family history consistent with Lynch syndrome. If testing reveals microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or abnormal IHC, additional testing is warranted. In the case of MSI-H or loss of *MLH1/PMS2*, a number of potential strategies can be followed such as testing for *MLH1* hypermethylation or *BRAF* V600E. If hypermethylation or a BRAF mutation are found, sporadic colorectal cancer is likely. If this testing is negative, germline testing is warranted. An alternative strategy is to perform paired tumor and germline testing (highlighted with *) as this evaluates *MLH1* hypermethylation, double somatic mutations and germline testing is the next step. If germline testing confirms a mutation, Lynch syndrome is diagnosed. If germline testing is negative, then somatic tumor testing can be considered to evaluate for double somatic mutations as an explanation for abnormal tumor testing.

Table 1.

Revised Bethesda Guidelines [21]

- Tumors from individuals should be tested for microsatellite instability (MSI) if they meet any of the following criteria:
- (1) Colorectal cancer diagnosed in an individual <50 years of age
- (2) Presence of synchronous/metachronous colorectal cancer, or other Lynch syndrome-associated cancers (endometrial, stomach, ovarian, pancreas, small bowel, ureter and renal pelvis, biliary tract, brain, sebaceous glands, and keratoacanthomas) regardless of age
- (3) Colorectal cancer with MSI-high histology (tumor infiltrating lymphocytes. Crohn's-like lymphocytic reaction, mucinous/signet-ring differentiation, or medullary growth pattern) diagnosed in an individual <60 years of age</p>
- (4) Colorectal cancer in one or more first-degree relatives with a Lynch syndrome-associated tumor, with one of the cancers diagnosed <50 years or age</p>
- (5) Colorectal cancer in two or more first- or second-degree relatives with Lynch syndrome-associated cancers, regardless of age

Table 2.

Comparison of Predictive Models*

Model	MMRpredict [15]	MMRpro [36]	PREMM ₅ [39••]
Year	2006	2006	2017
Genes	MLH1, MSH2, MSH6	MLH1, MSH2, MSH6	MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2, EPCAM
Variables	For patient: - Age at CRC diagnosis - Sex - Tumor location (proximal/distal) - Synchronous and/or metachronous tumors - For FDRs: - CRC (yes/no) - Youngest age of CRC (<50/>50) - Endometrial cancer (yes/no)	For patient, FDRs, SDRs: - Relation to patient - CRC (yes/no); age at diagnosis - Endometrial cancer (yes/no); age at diagnosis - Current age if unaffected - Results of MSI/IHC - Results of previous germline testing	For patient: - Age - Sex - CRC (yes/no) - Other LS-associated cancer (yes/no) From affected side of family: - Number of FDRs and SDRs with CRC - Number of FDRs and SDRs with endometrial cancer - Any relatives with other LS-associated cancer (yes/no) *Prior versions include PREMM _{1,2} [37] and PREMM _{1,2,6} [38]
Performance	<i>MLH1/MSH2/MSH6</i> (AUC, 0.85; 0.77–0.93)	<i>MLH1/MSH2/MSH6</i> (AUC, 0.79; 0.74–0.84)	<i>MLH1</i> (AUC, 0.89; 0.87–0.91) <i>MSH2/EPCAM</i> (AUC, 0.84; 0.82–0.86) <i>MSH6</i> (AUC, 0.76; 0.73–0.79) <i>PMS2</i> (AUC, 0.64; 0.60–0.68)
Source	Website [87]	Website; software [88]	Website [89]

CRC = colorectal cancer, FDR = first degree relative, SDR = second degree relative, LS = Lynch syndrome

* Adapted from "Criteria and prediction models for mismatch repair gene mutations: a review" by Win et al, 2013, J Med Genet, 50:785–93 [34]