

Provider Considerations When Offering MCED Testing

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This resource is intended to walk providers and other key stakeholders through critical considerations as it relates to MCED Screening. The Care Delivery Work Group has developed the following process considerations for clinicians who are considering the use of an MCED test for a patient:

1. *Identify potential risk factors*
2. *Conduct a risk-benefit assessment*
3. *Guide an informed choice discussion with the patient*
4. *Operationalize MCED Testing*
5. *Interpret and manage results*



Identify Potential Risk Factors

- Providers should take into consideration the following risk factors for a patient: **Age, Alcohol, Cancer-Causing Substances, Chronic Inflammation, Diet, Hormones, Immunosuppression, Infectious Agents, Overweight/Obesity, Radiation, Sunlight, Tobacco.**
- **Cancer affects all population groups** in the U.S., **but** due to social, environmental, and economic disadvantages, **certain groups bear a disproportionate burden of cancer** compared with other groups.
- Health concerns, including the potential to diagnose cancer faster and earlier, **may not be a priority** for **individuals and communities with low resources**. Learn more about the health equity landscape of MCED tests [here](#).

Conduct Risk-Benefit Assessment

- Understand the potential benefits of an MCED test, which may include:
 - Testing for cancers where there is **no screening test available**.
 - Testing of cancer in **asymptomatic patients**, which may improve the chances of successful treatments or allow for less invasive treatments.
 - Testing for multiple cancers using a blood test, which **may increase testing adherence** compared to current level of screening engagement, which vary by cancer site.
- Understand the best option depending on a patient's risk:
 - Risk for morbidity and mortality based on concomitant conditions
 - Risk of cancer based on risk factors (as outlined above)
- Understand that MCED tests **do not replace standard of care screenings**.

- **Understand a patient's desires, resources, and options:**
 - What are their driving factors?
 - Do they understand the MCED assay does not diagnose cancer and may result in needed follow-up scans?
 - Are they agreeable to participate in a trial or is there an inherent misgiving about trials/research?

📍 Guide Informed Choice Discussion with Patient

Discuss the following:

- **Risks** include overdiagnosis, cascades of additional testing, false positives, increased anxiety, and more expensive care
- **Benefits** include early diagnosis of cancers (for some cancers this may not be helpful) and detection of cancers that aren't commonly screened for
- **Cost Considerations** - tests may be an out-of-pocket expense, as well as diagnostic follow up
- **Research Data** - encourage data sharing or participating in clinical or longitudinal studies research

⚙️ Operationalize MCED Testing

- The only test currently available in the US is Galleri®.
- For providers participating in a health system that is utilizing MCED tests, it is important to leverage electronic health information and lab operation clinical decision support for:
 - Orders
 - Patient engagement
 - Results
 - Billing

⊕ Interpret and Manage Results

- For a **Negative** test,
 - What are the follow up expectations?
- For a **Positive** test,
 - Is there a diagnostic test to verify the result?
- Managing **false negatives or positives**
 - What counseling support is available?

About the MCED Consortium

The [Multi Cancer Early Detection Consortium](https://www.mced.info) released a new paper entitled, [Multicancer Early Detection \(MCED\) Screening Guidance: A Recommended Care Pathway for Clinical Use of MCED Tests](https://www.mced.info), to inform providers on how these emerging technologies work and complement existing cancer screening practices. The paper outlines the benefits and risks of MCED tests, including the potential for false positives and false negatives, and the data surrounding them. This allows providers the opportunity to have informed, educated discussions with their patients and maps out important considerations when deciding to use an MCED test in a patient's care. Visit the Consortium's website to learn more: www.mced.info

