Interpreting for Cancer Genetics Polls

Poll 1

1. What do genetic counselors do? *(Click on all that apply.)*
    a) Assess a patient's risk for developing cancer.
    b) Educate patients about genetics.
    c) Take samples for genetic testing.
    d) Analyze the results of a genetic test.
    e) Diagnose cancer.
    f) Support patients while sharing test results.
    g) Treat cancer

    Answers: a, b, f.
    C is usually done in by lab techs; d is usually done by a geneticist, e and g are usually done by an oncologist

2. What could happen at a genetic counseling appointment? *(Click on all that apply.)*
    a) The genetic counselor and the patient discuss what the patient wants to get out of the session.
    b) The genetic counselor gathers information about the patient's family's health history.
    c) The genetic counselor provides basic information about genetics.
    d) The patient asks questions.
    e) The patient decides if they want genetic testing.
    f) The genetic counselor determines whether the patient has cancer.
    g) The genetic counselor shares and explains genetic testing results.
    h) The genetic counselor tells the patient if they will get cancer in the future.
    i) The genetic counselor advises patients as to their treatment options if they have cancer.
    j) The genetic counselor provides long-term counseling for patient trauma.

    Answers: a, b, c, d, e, g
    F is usually done by an oncologist; h is incorrect because nobody can say for sure if any given patient will get cancer in the future; i is usually done by the patient's doctor; j is done by a psychotherapist.

Poll 2

1. Why do genetic counselors compile a detailed family history?
    a) They want to get to know the patient.
    b) They are looking for clues that the patient may have a genetic variant that increases the chance of getting cancer.
    c) They want to determine how likely the patient is to comply with treatment.
    d) They are establishing a genetic baseline to compare the test results to.

    Answer: b

2. What is genetic testing?
    a) A test for cancer.
    b) A test of a patient's ability to have children.
    c) A test of a patient's actual genetic structure as a baseline for future reference.

d) A test of the patient's actual genetic structure to see if there are any changes from what would be expected.

Answer: d

3. What's the purpose of genetic testing around cancer?
    a) To identify genes that are cancerous.
    b) To identify cancer in the breast, ovaries or colon.
    c) To identify any gene variants that would increase the risk of a person developing certain cancers.
    d) To identify why a patient's parents died of cancer.

    Answer: c

4. What is looked at in single site analysis?
    a) One specific place on one specific gene.
    b) One entire gene
    c) Various specific genes
    d) All the genes

    Answer: a

5. What is looked at in individual gene testing?
    a) One specific place on one specific gene.
    b) One entire gene
    c) Various specific genes
    d) All the genes

    Answer: b

6. What is looked at in gene panel testing?
    a) One specific place on one specific gene.
    b) One entire gene
    c) Various specific genes
    d) All the genes

    Answer: c

7. How is germline testing different from tumor testing?
    a) Germline testing checks for infections, while tumor testing looks for cancer.
    b) Germline testing looks at the mutations present in a specific tumor, while tumor testing looks at a patient's overall genetic structure.
    c) Germline testing predicts whether a patient's children will get cancer, while tumor testing predicts whether a patient will die from cancer.
    d) Germline testing looks at a patient's overall genetic structure, while tumor testing looks at the mutations present in a specific tumor.

    Answer : d