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