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GINA/Privacy Information Glossary Terms





DNA Testing:

DNA testing: a form of genetic test that specifically analyzes DNA. This type of testing may be used to identify DNA changes that can cause disease, or it may be done to learn other genetic information about an individual, such as paternity or ancestry.

Genetic Testing:

Genetic testing: analyzing a person's genetic material (i.e. chromosomes or genes) in order to identify changes which could lead to genetic disease or predisposition to disease.

Germline Testing:

Germline testing: testing typically performed on a blood or saliva sample to look for inherited genetic changes or changes that someone has from birth, which can be passed down from one generation to the next.

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA):

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA): a federal law passed in 2008 that protects people from their genetic information being misused and impacting their health insurance coverage or employment.

Informed Consent:

Informed consent: the process of learning key details about a medical treatment (such as a drug, surgery or test) to be able to decide whether or not to have the treatment or test.