Endometrial Cancer
Testing for Lynch Syndrome

You have been diagnosed with endometrial (uterine) cancer. If you are having surgery for your cancer, two tests will be done to see if you have an inherited condition called Lynch syndrome. This condition is also known as hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC for short). Testing you for Lynch syndrome is important and will help us plan and personalize your cancer care.

Although most endometrial cancer does not run in families, about 3 percent (%) is inherited. Of those, Lynch syndrome is the most common cause. People with Lynch syndrome have a much higher chance of developing endometrial, colorectal and other cancers than people who do not have this condition. If a woman with endometrial cancer is found to have Lynch syndrome, she has a much higher chance of developing colorectal cancer. Because Lynch syndrome is inherited, this information is important for family members.

Tests
The following tests will be done on your cancer (tumor) after surgery:

- **Microsatellite instability (MSI).** This test compares the DNA of normal tissue to the DNA of tumor tissue.
- **Immunohistochemistry (IHC).** This test uses special staining to look for four specific proteins found in colon and rectal tumors. If one or more of these proteins are missing, then Lynch syndrome may be present.

Results
Test results are usually available about three weeks after your surgery. If there is a chance you have Lynch syndrome, then results from one or both of these tests will usually show it. Sometimes, test results are unclear and more tests may be needed.

If results show that you may have Lynch syndrome, we will contact you to set up an appointment with a genetic counselor. The genetic counselor will talk with you about getting a blood test to confirm whether you have Lynch syndrome and what that would mean for you and your family.

Please talk with your care team in the Gynecologic Oncology Center if you have questions or concerns about these tests. Also, ask to speak with a genetic counselor to learn more about Lynch syndrome or these tests.