

## Publication

### Examining information-seeking behavior in genetic testing for cancer predisposition: A qualitative interview study

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This study aims to assess information needs and information sources and seeks to illustrate what at-risk individuals consider motivators of and barriers to information-seeking before and after genetic testing for cancer predisposition.; Semi-structured interviews with people seeking genetic counseling in Switzerland were analyzed qualitatively using thematic analysis. Wilson's model of information behavior was the theoretical framework.; We identified four themes that illustrate motivators of and barriers to information-seeking: attitudes and emotions; knowledge; social environment; and demographic factors. We also elucidated information needs and collected participants' information sources.; This study's empirical approach helps healthcare professionals to understand their patients' behaviors and wishes concerning information-seeking more concretely than theoretical models alone. The study also identifies information gaps, especially outside the genetic counseling setting.; Genetic counselors and other healthcare professionals need to purposefully assist patients in finding trustworthy and accessible information. Healthcare professionals in all disciplines need to be educated about predictive genetic testing.

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