

## The Microbiome in Cancer Risk Study

### What is the “Microbiome in Cancer Risk Study”?

The purpose of this research study is to learn more about how genetic and lifestyle risks impact the development of the colon cancer microbiome and how this microbiome varies in populations.

Using your stool as a tool we want to identify bacteria in the gut that may help detect, prevent or treat colon cancer. We will look for these bacteria in stool specimens.

### What is the Microbiome and why does it matter?

- Tiny bacteria and viruses called microbes live on and around us.
- Microbes that live in humans (called the microbiota or micro-biome) can have an effect on both health and disease.
- The gut has the largest number of microbes compared to any other body site and is most often studied. To study the gut microbiome, stool specimens are collected. Recent studies suggest that the microbes that live in the gut may help contribute to colorectal cancer detection and prevention

### Who can join the study?

People from birth to 90 years of age with familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC, Lynch Syndrome) **OR** with a family history of familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC, Lynch Syndrome) may join.

### What will be expected if I participate?

- You or your family member will be asked to complete a questionnaire about you and your family’s health history and eating habits. This information will be kept private and will not be shared without your consent.
- You will be asked to provide a stool sample that you will mail to our lab with a prepaid envelope.
- You will be given a \$15 gift card when the stool sample and questionnaire are received by the lab.

#### **Contact Information**

Contact: *Celina Santiago 410-502-1965*  
*csantia9@jhmi.edu*

*Dr. Cynthia Sears, Principal Investigator*  
*Study number (IRB00207844)*