

October 15, 2021

Congratulations to Catherine Goudie on the publication of her study entitled: [Performance of the McGill Interactive Pediatric OncoGenetic Guidelines \(MIPOGG\) for Identifying Cancer Predisposition Syndromes in JAMA Oncology](#) on Oct. 7, 2021.

Catherine joined our Faculty in 2018 with a great idea: that pediatric cancer predisposition syndromes could be detected early without the need for expensive genetic testing across the board using a validated clinical support tool. She set out to build and validate that tool. Catherine took the very uncommon step of securing FRQS Jr 1 salary support BEFORE her arrival. She has worked diligently toward this goal. Her hard work has paid off with exciting results that are likely to make a real difference in the care of children with cancer predisposition syndromes around the world. The MIPOGG tool uses clinical information that is readily available at the time of a first pediatric cancer diagnosis to determine whether additional investigations for a cancer predisposition syndrome are warranted. Identification of cancer predisposition syndromes is important to ensure adequate monitoring, cancer prevention, and early detection to improve outcomes. Dr. Goudie and her team showed that the MIPOGG tool has 90.7% sensitivity, 60.5% specificity, and a negative predictive value of 98.6% in detecting cancer predisposition syndromes. This means that the tool will detect just over 90% of cancer predisposition syndromes.



Furthermore, over 98% of those with a negative result on MIPOGG do NOT have a cancer predisposition syndrome. These excellent test characteristics should provide a great deal of reassurance to parents and care providers, identifying those who do and do not need extra testing. To give a sense of the importance of this publication, JAMA Oncology has an impact factor of 31.8, compared with about 7.1 for Pediatrics, and 74 for NEJM. In other words, this is a big deal.

Have a great weekend.

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