

## **Communication Practices of Cancer Genetic Counselors**

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Historically, it has been the responsibility of a genetic counselor to provide a patient with a letter that summarizes the genetic testing performed, provides appropriate screening recommendations, and discusses implications for family members. This study assessed the current utilization of summary letters within the cancer genetic counseling field. We recruited 112 cancer genetic counselors who completed an anonymous online survey about their use of summary letters and perceived utility. Of the genetic counselors surveyed, 84.82% agreed that it is the responsibility of a genetic counselor to write summary letters and report typically including a variety of content in each letter. Our study illustrated that there is no clear consensus regarding the content and utilization of summary letters in the cancer genetic counseling field. Identifying strategies to streamline the process of writing summary letters may help to save genetic counselors time and effort on this task. A consensus statement on behalf of the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) would provide guidance for best practices. Such improvements are necessary to improve workflow and meet the growing demand for genetic counselors.