Genetic Testing Scam

Medicare beneficiaries are being targeted by companies claiming Medicare fully covers a cheek swab that tests for all cancers, how your body processes prescriptions, and a variety of other genetic hereditary diseases. Remember these tips:

- **Genetic tests and cancer screening** must be **medically necessary** and **ordered by your treating physician** to be covered by Medicare.

- **Colorectal Cancer** is the **ONLY preventive genetic screening test** covered by Medicare, and it is not a cheek swab.

- **Be Suspicious of:**
  - Tests ordered by someone other than your doctor
  - Tests conducted at your home, a health fair or senior center
  - The words “gene analysis” or “molecular pathology” on an MSN may indicate questionable genetic testing.

- **Report it:**
  - If you are contacted by anyone who offers these tests, don’t do it! Report it to your NYS Senior Medicare Patrol at 800-333-4374.

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