



From Clinic to Discovery

Key Tips and Tricks for Genetic Counselors in Research

1



Trust your training.

Your clinical insight and understanding of patients and families bring value to research. Be confident, and ask for help when needed.

2



Let clinical questions guide you.

Notice uncertainties in everyday care. Turn an unanswered question or unmet patient need into a research idea.

3



Find a mentor or sounding board.

Ask a trusted colleague to discuss ideas, review drafts and help you navigate unfamiliar steps.

4



Reach out and build a team.

Email experts, connect through CGA-IGC and work across disciplines. Collaboration can bring the data and expertise your project needs.

5



Learn through feedback.

Scientific writing and institutional review board (IRB) processes take practice. Study edits, apply feedback and learn your institution's requirements.

6



Seek resources and funding.

Explore internal, society and patient-organization grants. Check eligibility and seek statistical expertise when needed.

7



Set priorities and plan your time.

Focus on relevant unmet needs, agree on deadlines and consider feasibility. Explore roles or funding that support protected research time.

8



Keep patients and families central.

Explain what your findings mean for patients and relatives. Your perspective helps connect research results with clinical care.

Based on the CGA-IGC webinar with Maegan Roberts, MS, CGC:

“From Clinic to Discovery: Genetic Counselors Leading Research in Hereditary Gastrointestinal Cancer.”