

June 2, 2018 Speaker at PCSANM meeting

Her slide presentation is coming soon.

Shawnia Ryan, MS,CGC, has 16 years of experience in human genetics, including prenatal and pediatric genetics. She has practiced in four states: Illinois, California, Washington and New Mexico. She is certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling; is licensed by the New Mexico Medical Board and the Washington State Department of Health; and is a member of the National Society of Genetic Counselors. Ms. Ryan has written several papers and given talks on genetic research.



Ryan is the second certified cancer genetic counselor in the state and works closely with Lori Ballinger, MS, CGC, at UNM Cancer Center. Ballinger is the other certified cancer genetics counselor in New Mexico. They stay very busy with following genetic research in cancer and with helping their patients make sense of genetics and statistics.

Two of the biggest challenges in getting helpful genetic information is deciding who to test and what to test for. “Genetics is not isolated to one individual,” says Ryan. “It’s the whole family. It may be that you’re not the best person to test because you haven’t had cancer.” Genetically testing family members who have been diagnosed with cancer may give the entire family the most information. It may also help those family members.

Contact information if you want to get genetic counseling for you or your family and/or genetic testing.

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