

Rachel's Rule Campaign

Summary of Department of Health and Social Care Response

Date of Response: 16 February 2026

This document provides a structured summary of the Department of Health and Social Care response regarding the Rachel's Rule campaign.

- Hereditary cancer risk is managed through GP or specialist referral to Clinical Genetics Services, in line with criteria set out in the National Genomic Test Directory.
- Jess's Rule was referenced as a patient safety initiative encouraging GPs to reconsider cases where diagnosis has not been reached after three consultations.
- Genomic testing in England is delivered through the NHS Genomic Medicine Service (GMS) via a national network of NHS Genomic Laboratory Hubs.
- The Government's 10-Year Health Plan proposes expansion of predictive and preventative genomics through a new population health genomics service.
- NHS England is undertaking a transformation programme to review referral, triage and management guidance within Clinical Genetics Services.
- Clinical Genetics Services provide pathways for germline testing and ongoing surveillance for individuals with inherited cancer predisposition variants.

The response outlines existing genomic structures and planned service developments. It does not reference the introduction of a specific system-level safeguard for cumulative hereditary cancer risk review as proposed under Rachel's Rule.