



Dear colleague,

In 2026, the Maine Cancer Genomic Initiative will celebrate 10 years of bringing genomic expertise to communities across Maine, ensuring that where a patient lives does not determine their access to personalized cancer care.

MCGI was created to close the gap between cancer research and patient care. Over the past decade, that work has been shaped by strong partnerships with health systems, clinicians, researchers and patient advocates. Together, we have made genomic testing more accessible, supported clinical decision making through our Genomic Tumor Boards and helped bring precision oncology closer to home.

As we move through this anniversary year, we look forward to reflecting on the achievements we've made together. **If there are any words you wish to share as you reflect on this milestone for MCGI, we would love to hear them. Please feel free to write to our team at mcgi@jax.org**

Sincerely,

Jens Rueter, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer, The Jackson Laboratory
Medical Director, MCGI



Henry: An MCGI Story

When Henry Grandgent was diagnosed with stage IV prostate cancer, he expected the road ahead to lead far from home. Long drives, distant specialists and time away from the island where he has built his life.

At a routine physical in 2023, bloodwork raised concerns. A biopsy confirmed metastatic prostate cancer.

For many patients, a diagnosis like Henry's means traveling hours to reach academic medical centers. For the Grandgents, that would have meant repeated trips to Boston.

Instead, his care stayed close to home.

Just minutes up the road, his oncologist, Dr. Philip Brooks, brought Henry's case to an MCGI Genomic Tumor Board. There, a multidisciplinary group of oncologists, pathologists, geneticists and researchers reviewed his genomic tumor testing results and helped guide treatment decisions.

For Henry and his family, that made all the difference.

Since 2016, MCGI has supported more than 3,000 patients by connecting local care teams to genomic expertise and clinical trial pathways.

[!\[\]\(6059a5aa8b4ca7bb793408023d6c6e42_img.jpg\) Read Henry's full story and watch the video](#)

Special thanks from Henry: Philip Brooks, M.D., Sam Shaw (Islesford Art and Technology Park), Joyce Macintosh, Melanie Clauson, Vanessa Dalton, and Mount Desert Island Hospital.

Thank you Henry, for trusting us with your story.



50th participant enrolled in brain tumor genomics study

The brain tumor genomics study, a collaboration between The Jackson Laboratory and MaineHealth, recently enrolled its 50th participant.

The study integrates advanced molecular testing and expert case review into earlier diagnosis for more accurate brain tumor classification, addressing a common clinical challenge to ultimately improve outcomes.

The impact is already clear. In one case, a patient's tumor proved difficult to classify. Initial testing suggested one diagnosis, but genomic analysis pointed in a different direction. Through the collaboration, tumor tissue was sent to the JAX Advanced Precision Medicine Laboratory for next-generation sequencing and methylation testing. The results changed the patient's diagnosis and opened new, more accurate treatment options.

👉 [Check out our video and story coverage to dive deeper](#)

Thank you to all the teams making this work possible.



Educational resources

Do you review cancer biomarker test results? Or work with genetic counselors who do?

🚀 New CEU course: [Interpreting Biomarker Testing in Precision Oncology for Genetic Counselors](#)

As biomarker testing plays a growing role in precision oncology, understanding how tumor findings inform hereditary cancer risk assessment is critical. This on-demand, case-based course helps genetic counselors strengthen their confidence interpreting biomarker testing using real-world clinical scenarios.

- ✓ 100% online and self-paced
- ✓ Interactive, case-based learning
- ✓ Free content (pay only for CEUs)
- ✓ Earn 0.75 contact hours in ~30 minutes

👉 [Enroll today](#)



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