

Do it yourself genetic tests: perhaps you should think twice

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Your mother died of breast cancer at age 48. Your father had the first of a series of heart by-pass operations in his late fifties. An uncle and a cousin have died of colon cancer, and your sister is diabetic. From this brief family history, you already know something about the diseases to which you may be susceptible yourself. Now, however, thanks to the entrepreneurial activity of an Ontario couple, you can purchase Canada's first home DNA kit to help you determine, with greater scientific rigour, the diseases to which you're genetically predisposed.

Before you fork over the purchase price of \$29.95, and the further fee involved in having your DNA sample tested for disease by a private laboratory, there are some serious questions you ought to be pondering.