

# TED Talks Debates: The Era of Personal Dna Testing Is Here

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## Group 1: Informed consumers

Desires: You like to use the latest technology to better understand yourselves. You are curious and the knowledge is just to inform yourself.

Fears: Data privacy, data storage, hacking, inaccurate DNA information.

What other fears and desires might informed consumers have?

1. Point one \_\_\_\_\_
2. Point two \_\_\_\_\_
3. Point three \_\_\_\_\_

Questions you can ask others

1. Why should consumers have access to personal DNA tests?
2. How would access to the tests help patients become more proactive about their health?
3. How do consumers and patients respond to doctors' concerns that they may have difficulty interpreting the results of genetic tests without a health professional's guidance?

What other questions can you ask?

## Group 2: Doctors opposed to consumer access to personal DNA tests

Desires: Patient health and accurate information, reassure patients.

Fears: Oversensitive analysis of DNA data, patients without medical expertise making medical decisions.

What other fears and desires might doctors opposed to consumer access have?

1. Point one \_\_\_\_\_
2. Point two \_\_\_\_\_
3. Point three \_\_\_\_\_

Questions you can ask others

1. Are most health conditions determined by one single gene?
2. What concerns do some doctors and scientists have predicted a person's risk of developing diseases like cancer?
3. Why should genetic tests only be carried out under the supervision or counseling of a doctor or other health care professional?
4. Can access to personal genetic information ever harm someone? How?

### Group 3: Doctors who support consumer access to personal DNA tests

Desires: Greater patient confidence in their health decisions.

Fears: Cost of DNA testing, will patients be able to get their data from DNA testing companies.

What other fears and desires might doctors who support consumer access have?

1. Point one \_\_\_\_\_
2. Point two \_\_\_\_\_
3. Point three \_\_\_\_\_

1. How would easier access to genetic tests improve the relationship between doctors and patients?
2. How would access to genetic testing help patients prepare for taking care of their future health care needs?

What other questions can you ask?

### Group 4: Members of the state legislature, considering a ban on access to genetic tests

Desires: For citizens to make choices for themselves, for health companies to act responsibly.

Fears: Citizens being cheated or tricked into complex agreements with DNA testing companies, data security, doctor and patient care.

What other fears and desires might members of the state legislature have?

1. Point one \_\_\_\_\_
2. Point two \_\_\_\_\_
3. Point three \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why are some medical and health organisation asking for more government regulation for DNA testing?
2. What are some of the health care privacy issues associated with genetic testing?
3. What happens if employers or insurance companies gain access to a person's genetic information?

What other questions can you ask?

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