

# Emmeline Chang

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## EDUCATION

**Keck Graduate Institute**, Claremont, CA May 2021  
M.S. Human Genetics and Genetic Counseling GPA: 3.98  
**Thesis:** Genetic Counselor Attitudes on the Reporting of Variants of Uncertain  
Significance for Multigene Cancer Panels (Primary Advisor: Tali Ekstein, MS, CGC)

**University of California, Los Angeles**, Los Angeles, CA September 2000  
B.A. English

## CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

**American Board of Genetic Counseling** Expires 12/31/2026  
**California Department of Public Health** Expires 8/31/2027

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**National Society of Genetic Counselors** 4/2020-Present  
**Southern California Genetic Counselors** 4/2020-Present

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Senior Genetic Counselor** 7/2024-present  
**USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center** Supervisor: Julie Culver, MS, LCGC

Roles:

- Provide advanced genetic risk assessment to families with complex cancer presentations
- Cultivate relationships with our oncology providers to allow patients to undergo the appropriate screening/management needed
- Serve as a primary mentor for interns, residents and fellows, helping to onboard and teach

**Genetic Counselor** 9/2021-7/2024  
**USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**Genetic Counseling Assistant** 9/2018-8/2019  
**Linda Cowan, MD, Los Angeles, CA** Supervisor: Melissa Randall, MS, LCGC

Roles:

- Collected thorough pedigrees documenting personal and family medical histories
- Prepared detailed chart notes and summary letters for referring clinicians
- Ensured all testing ordered was completed and that patients were appropriately informed of the results by the attending genetic counselor

## GRADUATE ROTATION EXPERIENCE

**Kaiser Permanente – Prenatal, Preconception & Cancer** 3/2021-5/2021  
**Los Angeles, CA** Supervisor: Stephanie Morton, MS, LCGC

**Roles:**

- Primarily conducted full prenatal and preconception sessions, tailoring the discussion of available screening/diagnostic testing, the risk assessment and results interpretation as appropriate to the informational and psychosocial needs of each patient
- Explained risks for any genetic conditions or birth defects in an unbiased manner to facilitate shared decision making and promote patient autonomy
- Disclosed screening and diagnostic test results sensitively, providing effective psychosocial support and counseling to patients and family members as needed

**GeneScreen – Preconception, Prenatal & Cancer** 1/2021-3/2021  
**Remote** Supervisors: Emily Daugherty/Stephanie Virga, MS, CGC

**Roles:**

- Primarily provided in-depth post-test counseling to help individuals/couples understand their expanded carrier screening test results, any genetic risks identified and the benefits/limitations of testing
- Participated in egg/sperm donor review sessions, critically evaluating donor test results and their family medical histories to help individuals/couples make informed fertility decisions

**Loma Linda – Pediatrics & Cancer** 10/2020-12/2020  
**Loma Linda, CA** Supervisor: Subhadra Ramanathan, MS, LCGC

**Roles:**

- Elicited relevant pregnancy, developmental and medical histories as appropriate for each pediatric condition
- Conducted detailed consent sessions for whole exome sequencing (WES), educating parents about the benefits, limitations and possible results
- Maintained a sense of professionalism while working as part of a multidisciplinary team of genetic counselors and clinical geneticists

**ClinGen** 9/2020-10/2020  
**Remote** Supervisor: Diane Zastrow, MS, LCGC

**Roles:**

- Completed variant interpretation for the *PAH* Variant Curation Expert Panel by applying the ACMG-AMP Variant Interpretation Guidelines

**Cedars Sinai – Cancer** 7/2020-8/2020  
**Los Angeles, CA** Supervisor: Danielle Dondanville, MS, LCGC

**Roles:**

- Performed thorough case prep for each patient and conducted full counseling sessions
- Obtained comprehensive pedigrees to identify patients who would benefit from genetic testing
- Described inheritance patterns as well as the medical and psychosocial implications of cancer risk and genetic testing at a level appropriate to each patient

- Utilized the Tyrer-Cuzick model to provide patients with a personalized breast cancer risk assessment
- Communicated positive test results and management recommendations in an empathic manner to help patients make informed decisions

**OTHER RELEVANT WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Co-Founder** 5/2019-Present  
**Genetic Counseling Prospective Student Network (GCPSN), Los Angeles, CA**

Roles:

- Started this student interest group with two genetic counselors to increase student exposure to genetic counseling and to provide guidance throughout the competitive MSGC application process

**Committee Member** 1/2021-1/2023  
**Keck Graduate Institute, MSGC Curriculum Committee, Claremont, CA**

Roles:

- Appointed by program leadership to be a student representative of this committee that was established to discuss and implement changes to the MSGC curriculum as needed

**Pilates Instructor** 8/2014-8/2018  
**Whole Body Method, Los Angeles, CA** Owner: Nigel Sampson

Roles:

- Taught clients of all ages, including many with disabilities, customizing workouts to each person's physical and mental abilities
- Maintained a 94% client retention rate

**Trevor Lifeline Volunteer** 4/2017-7/2018  
**The Trevor Project, West Hollywood, CA** Supervisor: Anna Gettes

Roles:

- Built rapport with callers through empathic communication
- Utilized speech and inquiry free from personal or cultural bias
- Maintained meticulous documentation and organizational skills

**Online Advertising & Marketing Consultant** 2009-2013  
**Self-Employed, Los Angeles, CA**

**Sr. Manager – Advertising Strategy & Client Services** 2008-2009  
**Total Beauty Media, Santa Monica, CA**

**Account Manager – Sales & Ad Operations** 2006-2007  
**Weblogs, Inc. (AOL), Beverly Hills, CA**

**Search Marketing Copywriter** 2005-2006  
**Business.com, Santa Monica, CA**

**Associate Manager – Human Resources & IT** 2004-2005  
**Smashbox Cosmetics, Culver City, CA**

## AWARDS

**Best Poster, 2021 SCGC Annual Education Conference.** “Genetic Counselor Attitudes on the Reporting of Variants of Uncertain Significance for Multigene Cancer Panels.”

## PUBLICATIONS AND ABSTRACTS

**Chang, E. Y.**, Solomon, I., Culver, J. O., Gorman, N., Comeaux, J. G., Lerman, C., Quinn, E. A., & Ekstein, T. (2023). Clinical and laboratory genetic counselor attitudes on the reporting of variants of uncertain significance for multigene cancer panels. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*. PMID: 36747331

Culver, J. O., Freiberg, Y., Ricker, C., Comeaux, J. G., **Chang, E. Y.**, Banerjee, V., Sturgeon, D., Solomon, I., Kagey, J., Dobre, M. G., Carey, J., Carr, A., Cho, S., Lu, J., Kang, I. M., Patel, K., Terando, A., Ye, J. C., Li, M., ... Nelson, M. (2022). ASO Visual Abstract: Integration of Universal Germline Genetic Testing for All New Breast Cancer Patients. *Annals of Surgical Oncology*. PMID: 36319870

Culver, J. O., Freiberg, Y., Ricker, C., Comeaux, J. G., **Chang, E. Y.**, Banerjee, V., Sturgeon, D., Solomon, I., Kagey, J., Dobre, M. G., Carey, J., Carr, A., Cho, S., Lu, J., Kang, I. M., Patel, K., Terando, A., Ye, J. C., Li, M., ... Nelson, M. (2022). Integration of Universal Germline Genetic Testing for All New Breast Cancer Patients. *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, 1–9. PMID: 36161375

## POSTERS

**Emmeline Y. Chang**, Jacob G. Comeaux, Daisy Hernandez, Rebecca M. Waggoner, Natalia Gutierrez, Jesus Resendiz, Yvonne Cardona, Darcy Spicer, Charité N. Ricker & Julie O. Culver. Navigating *CHEK2* Variants with Discrepant Classifications. *Poster presentation at the 2025 International Symposium on Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer*.

Rebecca Waggoner, Jacob Comeaux, **Emmeline Chang**, Fumito Ito, Darcy Spicer, Laurie Brunette, Lynda Roman & Julie Culver. Decision-making Outcomes for Managing Gynecologic Cancer Risk in Lynch Syndrome. *Poster presentation at the 2023 CGA-IGC Annual Meeting*.

**Emmeline Chang**, Ilana Soloman, Nicholas Gorman, Emily Quinn & Tali Ekstein. Genetic Counselor Attitudes on the Reporting of Variants of Uncertain Significance for Multigene Cancer Panels. *Poster presentation at the 2021 NSGC Annual Education Conference*.

**Emmeline Chang**, Ilana Soloman, Nicholas Gorman, Emily Quinn & Tali Ekstein. Genetic Counselor Attitudes on the Reporting of Variants of Uncertain Significance for Multigene Cancer Panels. *Poster presentation at the 2021 SCGC Annual Education Conference*.

## PRESENTATIONS

“**Hereditary Cancer & Genetic Risk Assessment.**” Nursing Department. USC. September 2024.

**“Case Presentation Workshop – Gastrointestinal, Inequities, Targeted Therapies.”** Case Presenter. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Hope Clinical Cancer Genetics and Genomics Conference. May 2023.

**“Genetic Counseling for Cancer Patients.”** Physical Therapy Department Faculty. USC. September 2022.

**“How to Become a Genetic Counselor.”** Undergraduate Biology Course. East Los Angeles College. October 2020.

**“Unanswered Questions: Hereditary Breast and Gynecological Cancer Risk Assessment in Transgender Adolescents and Young Adults.”** Cancer Genetic Counseling Department. Cedars Sinai. August 2020.

#### SPECIAL SKILLS

**Fluent in conversational Korean**

REFERENCES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST