

# Understanding Genetic Carrier Screening: What You Need to Know



## Highlights

Genetic carrier screening is a test that can be done either by a mouth swab or blood test.

The test looks for mutations (changes or mistakes) in your genes that could cause a health problem for your baby.

There are different types of tests that look for different health conditions.

Make sure that you ask your doctor how much carrier screening will cost you.

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Preimplantation genetic testing (PGT) with IVF

Prenatal diagnostic testing, such as chorionic villus sampling (CVS) or amniocentesis

### **Frequency of the Test**

### **Tools And Assistance**

**Genetic Counseling:** A professional genetic counselor can provide guidance and support after receiving carrier screening results. They can help explain the results, discuss the implications, and recommend possible next steps, such as additional testing or reproductive options.

**Carrier Screening Tests:** Several types of carrier screening tests are available, including single condition, multi-condition, and expanded carrier screening. Depending on your personal and family medical history, a healthcare

provider can recommend the most appropriate test.

Financial Assistance: Many individuals may qualify for financial assistance or reimbursement through public health programs or insurance coverage, depending on the specifics of their situation. Be sure to discuss financial options with your healthcare provider before undergoing testing.