

The choice of whether or not to undergo genetic carrier screening is yours. There may be some questions that would be helpful to consider before you make the decision on whether or not to pursue carrier screening:

- Would I like to know as much information as possible to plan and be prepared?
- Would having more information make me more anxious or nervous?
- If testing on my partner and I indicated an increased risk for a genetic condition, would I want to move forward with [diagnostic testing](#) (such as [CVS](#) or [amniocentesis](#)), that would be able to give a 'yes' or 'no' answer, but also carries a risk for miscarriage?
- If I knew that my baby had one of these conditions, would it affect my decision to continue the pregnancy? Would I consider alternative options, such as [terminating](#) the pregnancy, or placing the baby up for [adoption](#)?

This is not an inclusive list of things to consider, but may be a good place to start. It is important to also discuss what sort of screening would be right for you with your doctor or genetic counselor.

Click [here](#) to learn more about scheduling a genetic counseling appointment for pregnancy-related questions.

Click [here](#) to learn more about scheduling a genetic counseling appointment for infertility or preconception questions.

Related Articles

- [Carrier Screening: How it Works](#)
Genetic carrier screening can generally be done by either a blood or a saliva test. The blood or saliva is sent to the lab, where they can then pull out your DNA from either your blood cells or your cheek cells that are in your saliva. This DNA is what...
- [Carrier Screening: Commonly Tested for Conditions](#)
Genetic carrier screening for common genetic disorders should be offered to everyone, regardless of age or ethnic background. Examples of common genetic disorders that screening is generally offered for include cystic fibrosis and spinal muscular atrophy. Some medical providers may also offer screening for another condition called fragile X syndrome....
- [Expanded Carrier Screening](#)

Some medical providers offer expanded genetic carrier screening. Expanded carrier screening offers testing for many genetic conditions at one time. There are many viewpoints and ethical issues involved with expanded carrier screening, and like most things there are pros and cons. Expanded carrier screening is available to all individuals, regardless...

- [Carrier Screening Results](#)

My results were normal/negative. What does that mean? When it comes to genetic carrier screening, a negative result significantly reduces, but does not eliminate, the chance to be a carrier of those genetic conditions. The chance to be a carrier for these genetic conditions after a negative genetic test is...