

# **Thinking About Having Children?**

Every pregnancy requires careful planning. Genetic testing enables couples to determine if they are at risk of passing on specific genetic conditions to their children. This information can help individuals make informed family planning decisions. **We encourage you to discuss the following genetic testing options with your healthcare provider to see if they might be right for you and your pregnancy**.

### Your genetic testing options include:

- Carrier Screening
- Hereditary Cancer Testing

Depending on your family history, your provider may discuss additional genetic testing.

# **Carrier Screening**

### The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommends that "Carrier screening and counseling ideally should be performed before pregnancy."<sup>1</sup>

- Carrier screening identifies if you and your reproductive partner are carriers of a recessive genetic condition (carrier couple) that you could pass onto your child.
- Generally, carriers of recessive genetic conditions are healthy, but if you and your partner are a "carrier couple" for the same genetic condition, your baby may be affected.
- Using a comprehensive carrier screen that can detect most carriers, regardless of ethnicity or family history, is highly recommended.

### **Genetic Condition Fast Facts**

- Most babies (80%) that are born with a genetic condition have no known family history of it.<sup>2</sup>
- 1 in 300 pregnancies will be affected by a recessive genetic condition.<sup>3</sup>
- · Genetic conditions are becoming increasingly treatable when identified early.

# If you and your partner are a carrier couple, your options may include:

## **Pre-Pregnancy Options**

Improved preconception planning

In vitro fertilization (IVF)

Donor sperm/egg

Adoption

NxGen MDx's Super Panel screens for 145 genetic conditions common across all ethnicities, providing you with actionable information to improve health outcomes for your child. If you and your reproductive partner are identified as a carrier couple for the same condition, a genetic counselor can help you identify your pregnancy options and how best to proceed.



# **Hereditary Cancer Testing**

- While most cancers occur by chance, approximately 10% of cancers are hereditary.
- These hereditary cancers can be passed down from generation to generation.
- If you have a family history of multiple young or rare cancers, cancer genetic testing may be appropriate for you.
- Hereditary cancer testing will help you determine your personal risk of developing a hereditary cancer and can help you understand the likelihood of passing it on to the next generation.
- Your hereditary cancer test results can allow you to take actions that will reduce your risk of cancer and minimize the chance of passing this hereditary risk on to the next generation through various preconception options.

If you and your partner test positive for a hereditary cancer syndrome, your options may include:





## Lifetime Risks for Common Cancers<sup>4</sup>

NxGen MDx's Hereditary Cancer Panel tests for your genetic risk in 8 different types of cancers including breast, ovarian, uterine, gastric, colorectal, pancreatic, prostate, and melanoma.

### <u>Click here to fill out the questionnaire and talk to your healthcare provider to see if Hereditary</u> Cancer Testing might be appropriate for you.

Adapted from NCCN data

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Committee Opinion No. 691: Carrier Screening for Genetic Conditions. Obstet Gynecol. 2017 Mar;129(3):e41–55. Blythe SA, Farrell PM. Advances in the diagnosis and management of cystic fibrosis. Clin Biochern. 1984 Oct;17(5):277–83. Johansen Taber KA, Beauchamp KA, Lazarin GA, Muzzey D, Arjunan A, Goldberg JD. Clinical utility of expanded carrier screening: results-guided actionability and outcomes. Genet Med. 2019 May;21(5):1041–8.