AUSTRALIAN
Clinicallabs
Your experts in antenatal testing

100%
Bulk-billed

Planning for a baby?

Clinical Labs' genetic carrier screening test is the best place to start.

Ask your doctor if it's right for you before trying to conceive. For more information, scan the QR code or visit clinicallabs.com.au/carrier-screening

What is genetic carrier screening?

Genetic carrier screening involves a simple blood test that provides you with information regarding your risk of having a child with a genetic condition.

What are the most common genetic conditions tested for?

At Clinical Labs, we offer Gene Access – genetic carrier screening for the three most common genetic conditions: cystic fibrosis (CF), fragile X syndrome (FXS), and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).

Cystic fibrosis (CF)

CF is a severe genetic condition that causes lung and gastrointestinal problems, affecting about 1 in 2,500 people. Approximately one in 25 people are carriers of CF.

Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)

SMA is an inherited neuromuscular disease historically associated with high morbidity and mortality, affecting about 1 in 6,000 people. Approximately one in 35 people are carriers of SMA.

Fragile X syndrome (FXS)

FXS is the most common inherited form of intellectual disability, affecting approximately 1 in 3,600 men and 1 in 6,000 women.

Clinical Labs also offers expanded testing for over 100 genetic conditions and screening for 8 genetic conditions common among individuals from the Ashkenazi Jewish community, at an out-of-pocket cost. For more information, please visit clinicallabs.com.au/carrier-screening.

Why should I consider genetic carrier screening?

Australian clinical guidelines (RANZCOG & RACGP)[1,2] recommend that every woman or couple who are either planning or in the first stage of pregnancy are offered genetic carrier screening for common genetic conditions, such as cystic fibrosis, spinal muscular atrophy, and fragile X syndrome, regardless of their probability of having these conditions.

How much does the screening cost?

Genetic carrier screening for cystic fibrosis (CF), spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), and fragile X syndrome (FXS) is now bulk-billed for women who are pregnant or planning pregnancy. If you are found to be a carrier for CF or SMA, your partner can then be tested for that specific condition to determine your risk as a couple of having a child with CF or SMA. The test for each condition is covered once in an individual's lifetime.

When should I be tested?

Ideally, screening is performed prior to conception to offer greater reproductive choice. Early detection is important as it allows more time for counselling and provides greater reproductive options for those at risk. With carrier screening for CF, SMA, and FXS now being bulk-billed, you can discuss the testing with your GP at your next routine appointment, along with other prenatal screening tests.

I don't have a family history. Do I still need to get tested?

As 90% of carriers for genetic conditions do not have a family history, Australian clinical guidelines recommend that every woman or couple who are either planning or in the first stage of pregnancy be offered testing regardless of their risk factor.

1. The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) Guidelines.
2. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Guidelines.

Where can I go for my carrier screening test?

After you have had a discussion with your doctor about genetic carrier screening and have a referral, you can visit any of our 1,300 Clinical Labs collection centres located throughout Australia for your test; there is no need to book. We welcome and accept all pathology request forms. For locations, visit clinicallabs.com.au/location.

When will my results be available?

Results for CF, SMA, and FXS carrier screening will be with your referring doctor 5-7 business days after the receipt of your blood sample at our lab.

What if I'm a carrier for a genetic condition?

If your results confirm that you are a carrier for a genetic condition, your doctor will recommend screening your partner for that specific condition to assess your overall risk as a couple of having a child with the genetic condition.

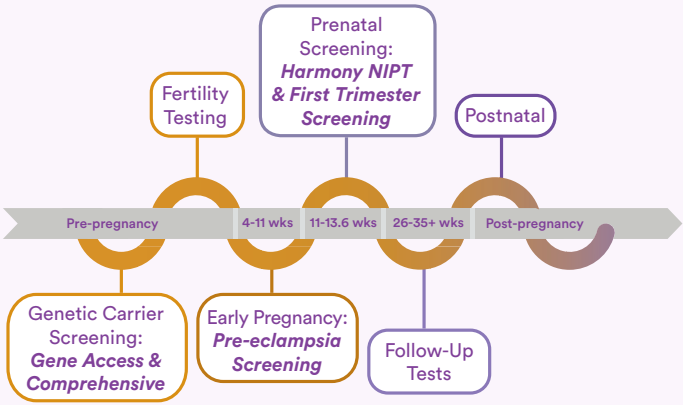
Is genetic counselling available?

Positive cases are offered one genetic counselling session per couple at no cost, upon your doctor's request.

Ask your doctor if it's right for you before trying to conceive. For more information, scan the QR code or visit clinicallabs.com.au/carrier-screening

Your experts in antenatal testing

Supporting you through every stage of your pregnancy journey



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