NEXT BIOSCIENCES

Carrier Screening

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR natera | Horizon™ Advanced carrier screening

What is genetic carrier screening?

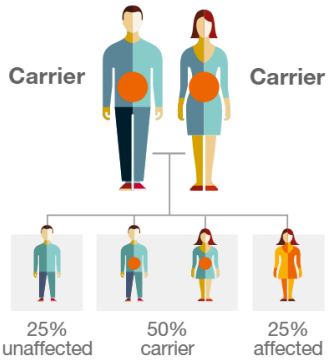
While most people are healthy with no family history of genetic conditions, many people are carriers of at least one genetic condition and are still at risk for passing these on to their children.[1] Next Biosciences has partnered with Natera to provide Horizon™ carrier screening locally in South Africa. The carrier screening test uses the latest in next-generation sequencing with high detection rates and different panel options to allow for cost-effective options catered to the individual.

Did you know

ACOG states that every pregnant woman should be provided with information on carrier screening.[2]

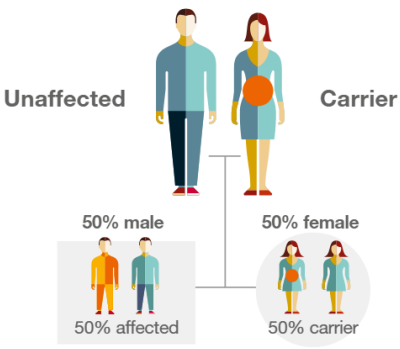
How are genetic conditions passed down from carrier parents to children?

Autosomal recessive inheritance



If a woman and her partner are both carriers of the same condition, they have a 1-in-4, or 25%, chance with each pregnancy of having a child affected with the condition.

X-linked inheritance



If a woman is a carrier of an X-linked condition, she has a 1-in-2, or 50%, chance with each pregnancy of passing the gene mutation to her child. If the child is a boy, and he inherits the mutation, he will be affected with the condition.

What does carrier screening detect?

Horizon™ screens for up to 613 genetic conditions.

Customisable panels are available on request.

Scan to see list of Horizon™ genetic conditions

Scan for Carrier screening pricing

Nothing is inevitable. Anything is possible.

Call **011 697 2900** | **nextbio.co.za**

What are the benefits of carrier screening?

Carrier screening can be performed any time before or during pregnancy. Some people may want to know their carrier status before pregnancy to inform reproductive decisions.

Clarify potential genetic risks prior to starting a family to empower informed decision-making.

Stratify risk in high-risk populations (e.g. Ashkenazi Jewish).

Ensure gamete donors and recipients are matched accurately to minimise genetic risks.

Reduce emotional and financial burden associated with unexpected genetic conditions.

What are my reproductive options if I am a carrier?

If you and your partner are both carriers of the same autosomal recessive condition, or if you are a carrier of an X-linked condition, you may consider:

Natural conception with an option of prenatal testing, such as amniocentesis or chorionic villi sampling, for the specific condition

In vitro fertilisation (IVF) with preimplantation genetic testing (PGT)

Use of a sperm or egg donor who is not a carrier for the condition

Adoption

How to test

1. To request Carrier Screening, a test requisition form (TRF) must be completed and sent to Next Biosciences **(genetics@nextbio.co.za)** by a healthcare professional. Genetic counselling is strongly recommended and can be facilitated by Next Biosciences. *The cost of the genetic counselling session is not included in the cost of testing.

Scan for TRF

2. Next Biosciences will send an invoice for payment to the patient. When carrier screening is requested for donors, alternative payment arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis.

3. Once payment is received, Next Biosciences will courier a carrier screening kit to the patient/s for the saliva test to be conducted (instructions provided in the kit).

4. Once the kit is ready for collection, Next Biosciences must be notified and a courier will be arranged to collect the sample.

5. Results will be sent directly to the referring healthcare provider in **3-4 weeks.**

Visit our website at **nextbio.co.za** or contact us at **011 697 2900** or **genetics@nextbio.co.za** for more information.

References

1. Bell et al. Sci Transl Med. 2011;3(65):65ra4
2. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Committee Opinion #691, March 2017.