



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 of ethnicity, but your insurance may or may not cover this testing. Some of the conditions that expanded carrier screening looks for are severe, while others may be more mild, or not even have any significant medical concerns associated with it. Some of these conditions have available treatments, while others don't.

There is also a very small chance that you could find out that you actually have a genetic condition, depending on the genetic conditions that are screened for.

Labs that offer expanded carrier screening may or may not be as thorough as labs that do not focus on expanded carrier screening. For example, if you have a family history of a specific condition, expanded carrier screening may not be the best test for you.

Whether or not to move forward with expanded carrier screening can be a complicated decision, and it is important to discuss it with a medical provider, such as a genetic counselor, to fully understand what the test is able to tell you.

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.

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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...

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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....

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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...

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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...