

Integrated GENETICS
Genetic Counseling



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LabCorp Specialty Testing Group

Integrated GENETICS

Genetic Counseling

When a woman finds out that she is pregnant or is planning a pregnancy, she faces many choices. As tests are offered and results arrive, she should understand her options.

What is a genetic counselor?

A Genetic Counselor is a health care professional with a master's degree in human genetics or genetic counseling. The role of a Genetic Counselor is to help you better understand your genetic risks and the tests available to you. Their training enables Genetic Counselors to discuss technical genetic information in practical, useful terms. **Integrated Genetics** Genetic Counselors are all board certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling or active candidates for certification.



What happens during a prenatal genetic counseling session?

- The Genetic Counselor evaluates your prenatal and medical history for relevant information.
- The Genetic Counselor reviews your family history and constructs a 3-generation family tree and explains any medical histories that could be inherited.
- The Genetic Counselor reviews any genetic testing you or your relatives have had, and may review other medical records.
- The Genetic Counselor completes a genetic risk assessment, and based on the information obtained, reviews your risks for having an increased risk of a child affected with a birth defect or a genetic condition.
- The Genetic Counselor discusses the testing options which may be appropriate for you.
- You have the opportunity to ask questions about any genetic concerns you may have.
- Based on your knowledge and your judgment, you decide whether to have any genetic testing or procedures. The decision is entirely yours.
- Written educational materials and/or information about community resources are available upon request.

Who could consider prenatal genetic counseling?

- Anyone interested in prenatal or preconception genetic screening.
- A woman of advanced age when her baby is born.
- Anyone with an abnormal ultrasound during pregnancy.
- Anyone who has questions about a disease or condition that runs in the individual's family.
- Anyone with a family history of an inherited disorder, birth defect, or intellectual disabilities.
- Anyone with a positive screening or abnormal genetic test result.
- Anyone concerned that his or her job, lifestyle, or medical history may pose a risk to pregnancy (including exposure to infection, radiation, medication, alcohol, street drugs, chemicals, or other environmental agents).
- An individual or couple who has had two or more unexplained miscarriages or early infant deaths.
- Couples who are first cousins or other close blood relatives.
- Couples with infertility thought to have a genetic cause.
- Men with infertility caused by congenital bilateral absence of the vas deferens (CBAVD).

How does an Integrated Genetics Genetic Counselor work with my doctor?

- Either your physician or a specialist can refer you for genetic counseling.
- The counseling services will be billed separately from any doctor visit. You will be responsible for any charges that your insurance does not cover.
- After the genetic counseling session, the Genetic Counselor sends a summary report to your doctor(s).

How do I schedule an appointment with an Integrated Genetics Genetic Counselor?

Appointments with an **Integrated Genetics Genetic Counselor** can be coordinated with maternal-fetal medicine or obstetric visits.

If your physician recommends genetic counseling with **Integrated Genetics**, you can call (855) GC-CALLS to obtain additional information.

About Integrated Genetics

Integrated Genetics has been a leader in genetic testing and counseling services for over 25 years. This brochure is provided by Integrated Genetics as an educational service for physicians and their patients.

For more information on our genetic testing and counseling services, please visit our web sites:

www.mytestingoptions.com

www.integratedgenetics.com

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(855) GC-CALLS or (855) 422-2557

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