Genetic Carrier Screening

Genetic carrier screening is a test that checks to see if a healthy person is a carrier for one or more genetic diseases. Most people do not know if they are a carrier for an inherited genetic disease until they have a child with this disease. Genetic carrier screening can help you and your partner learn about the chance to have a child with a genetic disease even before pregnancy.

Several companies ("natera", "GoodStart", "LabCorp", etc.) are able to provide this type of screening which is done by sending a sample of blood to the specialized laboratory where the testing may be carried out. Sometimes ethnic background, race, or family history may lead to doing a specific type of genetic carrier screening. For example, Jewish couples may wish to be screened for Tay Sachs disease, as well as other genetic diseases that occur more commonly in people of eastern European descent. Before deciding whether testing is to be done, and which specific tests to do, couples may benefit from consultation with a genetic counselor. Some of the companies that provide this type of testing will also provide genetic counseling to interested patients. One such company is GoodStart Genetics. Complimentary consultation is available and may be scheduled at GoodStartGenetics.com/get-started/counseling. If you would like to meet privately with a genetic counselor, we can help you make those arrangements upon request.

If you would like to have Genetic Carrier screening, *you must contact your insurance company and inquire as to whether this type of testing is covered under your insurance plan, and which genetics laboratory is the preferred center for your health insurance provider*. Once you have this information you may schedule your blood draw for the testing by calling our office and scheduling the blood draw for genetic carrier screening and advise us as to what tests you desire and which laboratory your insurer designates for the testing. We will send the blood out to the designated laboratory and inform you of the results when they are received.

Signature _____

Date _____