

# Genetic Counseling Services

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# Who is GeneScreen?

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GeneScreen is a separate company from RMA that patients are referred to for mandatory genetic counseling.

GeneScreen is a genetic counseling company that is independent from any lab.

GeneScreen's goal is to provide genetic counseling to RMA patients to help them understand carrier screening and risks associated with family history.

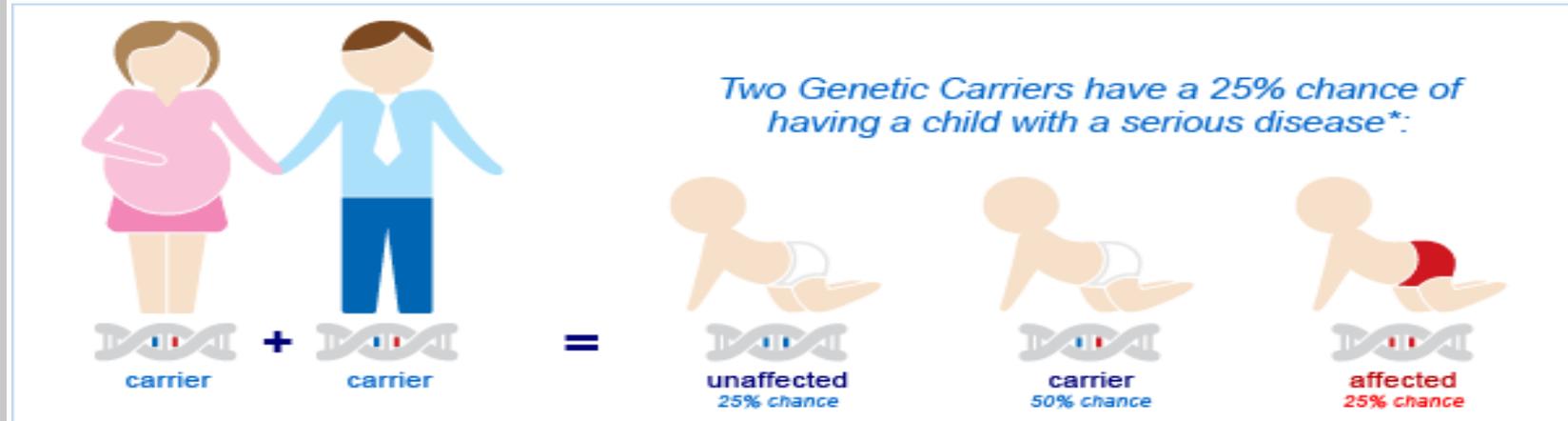
By working with RMA we have identified couples at risk of having an affected child so that referral for single gene preimplantation and/or prenatal diagnostic testing can be made.

Overall GeneScreen aims to help RMA patients make informed decisions about genetic testing and screening to assist the patients in achieving a healthy outcome.

If two people are carriers for the same condition, there's a one in four chance their children could have the condition.

## What is Carrier Screening?

It's important to know if you are both carriers of a genetic condition. Carriers usually have no symptoms or family history of the condition.



If you both know you are carriers of a condition, you may choose to move forward with IVF using single gene preimplantation genetic diagnosis of the embryos to avoid transferring an affected embryo. This will significantly reduce the risk of having a child with the condition.

# What is Genetic Counseling?

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Genetic counselors are health professionals with specialized graduate degrees and experience in the areas of medical genetics and counseling.

Genetic counselors provide a critical service to individuals and families considering undergoing genetic testing by helping them identify their risks for certain disorders, investigate family health history, interpret information and determine if testing is needed.

In a genetic counseling session the following items are reviewed:

- Family and personal medical histories
- General recommendations for carrier screening
- Additional testing that may be warranted by family history

# How Does GeneScreen Tie Into The RMA Process?

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Genetic counseling is now a mandatory part of the RMA checklist. All patients must have genetic counseling in order to be cleared for a cycle start.

Genetic testing is not mandatory but is HIGHLY recommended by both RMA and GeneScreen. Cystic Fibrosis and Spinal Muscular Atrophy are two ACOG recommended tests that are mandatory for the patient as per RMA policy.

It is preferable to have GeneScreen appointment as early as possible since genetic testing can up to three weeks.

Your final report with results and family history is sent to RMA for doctor review. If any high risk scenarios may present, you may discuss reproductive options with your doctor.

- Such as:
  - Proceeding with an IVF cycle and testing embryos for the genetic condition
  - Proceeding with an IVF or IUI cycle and testing the pregnancy for the condition