

## Genetic Carrier Screening & Sperm Donors

All patients are offered the option of genetic carrier screening to evaluate the risk of having a child with specific genetic conditions. Please refer to the *Preconception Carrier Screening* handout for general information on this testing. When conceiving with donor sperm, some additional considerations to keep in mind when making a decision about pursuing carrier screening include the below.

*Please initial each statement*

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Approximately half of people who have expanded carrier screening are found to be a carrier of one or more conditions. If you have screening, you should have a complimentary phone consultation with Myriad to understand any conditions you carry and the impact of choosing a donor who hasn't had screening versus a donor who has been screened for the disease(s) you carry.

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Each sperm bank screens for some genetic disorders, but the number of conditions and technology can vary greatly between banks. There may be a limited number of donors at specific banks who have been screened for rarer disorders. Therefore, sometimes it can take extra steps to find a donor of interest that had negative screening for the disorder(s) you carry.

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Due to the variability in carrier screening labs and tests, there is also a chance that a donor screened positive for a condition you were not tested for. A donor's genetic results may be available when you view their profile, or you may need to specifically ask the sperm bank about what genetic testing has been done. Even if you do not pursue testing, a donor you choose may have positive carrier screening results. Larger sperm banks often have genetic counselors on staff to review this information with you.

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Comparison of results and risks, discussion of options, and support in selecting a low risk donor is available through consultation with The Fertility Center's genetic counselor, Mary. To determine next steps, Mary can be reached at 616-988-2229 ext 128 or [tfcgenetics@mrivf.com](mailto:tfcgenetics@mrivf.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ We strongly recommend that you wait to purchase and ship sperm until all genetic screening and consults are completed.

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### **If you screen positive, there are three options for choosing a sperm donor:**

- Choose a sperm donor who has negative carrier screening for the disease(s) you carry. Ask sperm banks if they have donors in their database who have undergone screening for the specific disease(s) you carry. Some larger banks recently began performing expanded carrier screening on all donors, so they will continually have more donors available that have been screened.
- Choose a sperm donor who has not had carrier screening for the disease(s) you carry and ask the sperm bank if he is available to have further screening. This is more likely available at larger sperm banks with more active donors. There may be a fee for additional testing. It is possible that the donor(s) of interest will not be able to have further screening
- Knowing the reproductive risk, choose a sperm donor who has not been screened for the disease(s) you carry.

**I have read the above information and am aware of my options and responsibilities regarding carrier screening during the donor sperm process.**

Patient sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_