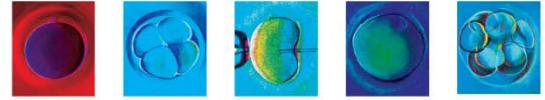


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FERTILITY FACT SHEET

San Ramon / Orinda / San Jose

Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Testing

The American College of OB/Gyn recommends that all couples consider having Cystic Fibrosis carrier testing done before they conceive. Cystic Fibrosis is a genetic disorder that is associated with severe breathing and gastrointestinal problems. Most cases result in a substantial illness with a shortened lifespan and lifelong medical care. Cystic Fibrosis is an autosomal recessive disorder meaning that if both partners are carriers there is a 1 in 4 chance that their child will have Cystic Fibrosis. You can be tested to see if you are a carrier with blood or saliva testing. The chance that you are a carrier varies depending on your ethnic origin: 1/29 Caucasian, 1/46 Hispanic American, 1/65 African American and 1/90 Asian American. If both partners are carriers, Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis testing is available to prevent conceiving a child with Cystic Fibrosis. Amniocentesis and CVS testing can diagnose fetal Cystic Fibrosis in women who are already pregnant near the end of their first trimester or early second trimester.

We recommend having this testing done on one partner before any treatment in our center. After careful consideration, you may sign a waiver if you choose to decline testing. More information is available in a brochure from the American College of OB/Gyn that we will make available to you upon request.

1. Cystic fibrosis is a life-long illness that is usually diagnosed in the first few years of life. The disorder causes problems with digestion and breathing.
2. The decision to be tested for Cystic Fibrosis (CF) carrier status is completely mine.
3. The test does not detect all CF Carriers
4. If I am a carrier, testing my partner will help me learn more about the chance that our baby could have CF.
5. If one partner is a CF carrier and the other is not, it is still possible that the baby will have CF, but the chance of this is very small.
6. If both parents are carriers, additional testing can be done in order to know whether or not a baby will have CF.
7. If a baby has inherited a CF gene from each parent, the only way to avoid the birth of a baby with CF is by terminating the pregnancy.