

Evaluations for Pediatric Genetic Conditions

Learning that your child may have a genetic condition can be stressful. The Center for Personalized Genetic Healthcare offers education about genetic conditions, along with guidance and support. Our medical geneticists and genetic counselors work to try to determine your child's diagnosis. Our team reviews medical and family histories, explains health risks and discusses genetic testing options, if appropriate.

When to consider a genetic counseling evaluation

Consider a pediatric genetic counseling evaluation if your child has one or more of the following:

- Birth defects (spina bifida, cleft palate, brain malformation, heart defect, etc.)
- Developmental delay or learning difficulties
- Abnormal growth
- Autism
- Hearing loss
- Unusual physical features
- Muscular dystrophy or another neuromuscular disorder
- Abnormal genetic test results
- A known or suspected genetic condition

Evaluations may also be worthwhile if a genetic condition runs in the family, to learn about possible risks for future children.



Preparing for your appointment

It's important to gather family health history information before your appointment and to ask your relatives:

- Do any relatives have a known genetic disorder, or has anyone had genetic testing?
- Does any relative have learning problems and/or autism?
- Has anyone been born with a birth defect(s)?
- Have any relatives had unusual physical features or abnormal growth patterns?
- Have any children died young?
- Do any relatives have seizures or epilepsy?
- Has any relative had three or more miscarriages?
- Are we of Ashkenazi Jewish, African American, French-Canadian or Cajun descent?

Creating a personalized plan

Our medical geneticists and genetic counselors will meet with you to determine the best way to help your family. We will work with your child's physician and with Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital specialists, if needed, to tailor your child's management plan.

Scheduling a genetics evaluation

Cleveland Clinic Genomic Medicine Institute Center for Personalized Genetic Healthcare

A doctor's referral is required; if you have no doctor, please call. Relevant records are needed from doctors outside Cleveland Clinic.

Appointments: 216.636.1768 or 800.998.4785

Fax: 216.445.6935

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