



The Counsyl Test at SRM Screens for 13 Selected Recessive Diseases

Your SRM physician has recommended that you or your partner undergo genetic testing using the new Counsyl genetic screening tool. There are a number of serious genetic disorders for which you may be a carrier. A carrier is someone that carries a single abnormal recessive gene wherein if they have a child by a partner that carries the same recessive disorder their offspring can have a serious medical disorder. Most of these are serious metabolic diseases which can be fatal in early childhood.

The thirteen recessive disorders that are included in the selected SRM Counsyl panel are relatively common. Several professional organizations such as the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) and the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) have recommended routine screening of the pre-pregnant population for only these 13 disorders. The other 80+ disorders, as included on the full Counsyl panel, are more rare to the extent that the risk of you and your partner both testing positive is extremely low. Yet, if one of you tests positive for one of these rare disorders, we are obligated to also test the other partner which adds time and expense to the process.

The cost per test to you for screening for the 13 selected disorders or the full panel of over 100 disorders is the same. However, the cost in terms of needing to frequently run additional tests makes the full panel overall more expensive (the full panel is less cost effective).

Your physician at SRM recommends that you be tested with the limited Counsyl panel (the 13 selected disorders). However, if you wish to be tested for the full 100+ disorders (full Counsyl panel) that is an option. Unless you specifically request the full panel, SRM will order the selected panel for you. Please feel free to ask questions if this explanation of the difference between the two panels (selected and full) is not clear.

The Cost of the Counsyl Genetic Test

Genetic carrier screening is often covered by insurance. The laboratory we recommend, Counsyl, will handle the billing process. Counsyl will send you an email with an estimate of the cost within 48 hours of receiving the order.