



Dear Patient,

The Center for Reproductive Medicine is committed to providing you with the best care possible. All oocyte donors applying for CRM's Third Party Program undergo extensive screening of their personal and family health history, physical examination and testing. Our goal is to provide our recipients with as much information about the donor's medical history as possible, including whether the donor is a carrier of any genetic disorders and the hereditary nature of these disorders. Genetic testing significantly reduces, but does not eliminate, the chance of your offspring being affected with a genetic disorder. The valuable carrier status information can and should be disclosed to your child(ren).

After comparing current genetic testing technologies available, CRM has elected to perform comprehensive gene sequencing for diseases on all patients. The Expanded Carrier Screening tests for 282 diseases, performed by Sema4, is done on all oocyte donors. Because the donor may not be disqualified for carrier status all male partners and directed/known sperm donors must be tested using the same panel and technology. The genetic testing is not optional when using donor oocytes.

**If you are using anonymous donor sperm**, we cannot be responsible for the testing of your donor. It will be up to you to inform the sperm bank and request to have the donor tested for the same disorder(s) for which your egg donor is positive (if any). Should you decide to proceed with the use of anonymous donor sperm without the additional testing, we may require appropriate genetic counseling and an acknowledgement of risk form or statement.

**A few important notes:**

- Carrier screening on all male partners/directed sperm donors must be completed prior to becoming active on the wait list.
- We cannot match you with an oocyte donor until we have your results because we cannot offer a donor who carries the same disorder(s).
- You will be informed of any disorder(s) for which the donor is a carrier, if any. All recipients receive a genetic report on the donor.
- Genetic counseling will be provided and you may proceed with the cycle if you choose to do so.
- A donor applicant who is found to be carrier of Fragile X Syndrome, other X-linked diseases, and/or abnormal chromosomes will most likely be disqualified.
- All family (sister/cousin) donors are tested in the same way as anonymous and the same disqualification criteria may apply.

Testing can be performed at any CRM satellite location by blood sample. It may take two to three weeks for results. Please call the Third Party Patient Coordinator at 646-962-3705 for a prescription.

If you have any questions regarding genetic testing or have a family history of a genetic disease not listed, you may contact one of our genetic counselors: Debra Lilienthal 646-962-3434, Nicholas Starpoli 646-962-3866, Ann Carlson 646-962-6556, or Stephanie Andriole 646-962-7419. If you are not able to come to a CRM location, you might be able to have a saliva kit sent to you. One of the genetic counselors can arrange this for you through Sema4.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact our Third party program manager, Dee Svedberg, at 646-962-3345.

Sincerely,

Alexis Melnick M.D.  
Donor Egg Program Medical Director