

CYSTIC FIBROSIS CARRIER SCREENING

KNOWING MATTERS –

About Cystic Fibrosis:

- Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is the most common genetic disease in the United States
- CF affects approximately 30,000 children and adults
- Caucasians are at greatest risk (1 in 20 Caucasians are carriers)
- CF can have a devastating impact on the lungs, pancreas and digestive system
- Without treatment most patients die at infancy or early childhood

Chances of Having a Child with Cystic Fibrosis:

- You only have a 5% chance of being a carrier of the CF Gene Defect
- If you test positive then your child's father would also need to be tested
- If both of you are carriers, your child has a 1 in 4 chance of being born with CF
- Although the likelihood is not high that your child will have CF, we won't know for sure without testing.

EARLY INTERVENTION IMPACTS LONGEVITY & QUALITY OF LIFE!

Many children are not diagnosed until age 2 or 3. The disease can be disguised as many other problems. Fortunately, if we know that both parents are carriers, we can test your child immediately following birth and begin immediate treatment if the test results are positive.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

Knowing matters! If your child tests positive for CF you and your healthcare providers can work together to keep your child as healthy as possible.

- If your child has CF, simple changes in diet can greatly improve your child's health
- Nutritional supplements have been developed to target the digestive challenges related to CF.

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY

- 65 years ago 80% of CF patients died within 1 year of birth
- Quality of life and longevity are being impacted through better care and lifestyle
- Median age of CF patients now is in the 30's and improving all the time!

CF CARRIER SCREENING IS RECOMMENDED FOR:

- Couples planning a pregnancy (Pre-Conceptual carrier screening)
- Mothers seeking prenatal care (Prenatal Carrier Screening)
- Individuals with a family history of CF
- Reproductive partners of individuals who have CF
- "At-risk" babies (both parents are CF carriers)

INSURANCE COVERAGE

- Nearly all insurance companies cover this test
- Most insurance companies acknowledge the value of testing

*This test determines if you are a carrier of the CF Gene.
Test once to know forever...*