# Pediatric Sweat Test

Your child is scheduled for a sweat test on:
_____ **at** _____.

The sweat test is done in the Pediatric Specialty Clinic at American Family Children's Hospital, 1675 Highland Ave., Madison, WI. Please arrive 15 minutes before your clinic visit and stop at the registration desk when you arrive. If you need to reschedule the test, please call the American Family Children's Hospital schedulers at **(608) 915-0620**.

**Sweat Test**
A sweat test is done to test for cystic fibrosis. During the sweat test, a small amount of sweat is collected from the forearms. The amount of salt (chloride) in the sweat is measured. A sweat test is done when a patient has symptoms of cystic fibrosis (CF), a family history of CF, or when a newborn has a positive screening test. If the sweat test is being done after a newborn screening, you will meet with a genetic counselor during this visit.

**Test Procedure**
Two electrodes are placed on your child's forearm for five minutes. These cause the sweat glands to produce sweat. This produces a mild tingling feeling but is not painful. A collector is placed on the arm to collect the sweat. Once the sweat is collected it is taken to the lab for testing.

**Diet**
It will not matter what your child eats or drinks before the test. Their diet will not affect the sweat test results.

**Medicine**
Your child should keep taking medicines as prescribed.

**If Your Child has a Fever or Rash**
If your child has a fever or rash, please contact the sweat test coordinator at the number on the reverse side of this page.

**During the Test**
Parents stay with the child. This test is not painful. It will help if children have something to keep them busy (such as a pacifier, bottle, special toy, or book) during the test. There is a play area in the waiting room for toddlers.

**Test Duration**
It takes about one hour to complete the sweat test. If your child is having the sweat test after newborn screening, the visit will take about 2 hours because you will meet with the genetic counselor after the sweat test is started.

**Test Results**
Results are ready about one hour after the sweat test. Test results are sent to your child's provider. You can call your provider's office to obtain the results. If your child is having the sweat test after newborn screening the genetic counselor will give you results, and test results will also be sent to your child's provider.

**Who to Call**
For scheduling questions call:
American Family Children's Hospital
**(608) 915-0620**

For questions about the sweat test call:
Pediatric Pulmonary Office/
Cystic Fibrosis Center
**(608) 915-0620**

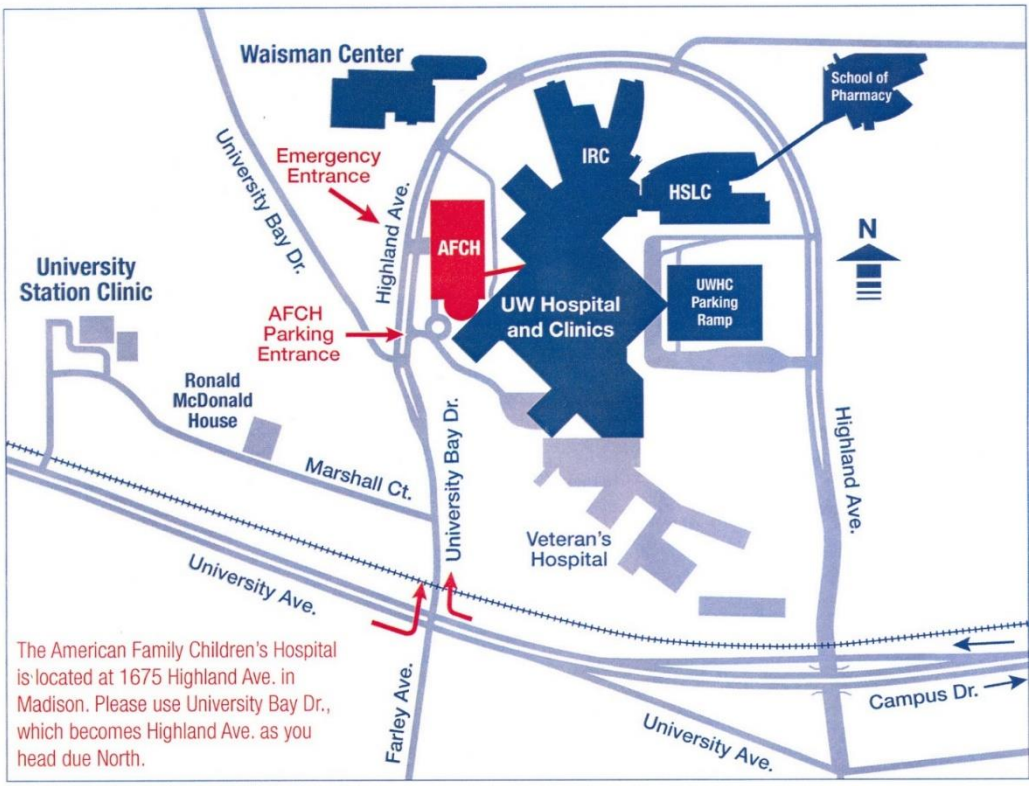
For questions about newborn screening, call the Genetic Counselor at: **(608) 915-0680**.

## Directions to American Family Children's Hospital

**From the South**
If you are coming from the south of Madison on highways 12/18 (Beltline Highway), take Midvale Boulevard north to University Avenue and turn right.

**From the West**
If you are coming from the west of Madison, find your way to University Avenue and go east on University Avenue. Take University Avenue to University Bay Drive (traffic lights). Turn left onto University Bay Drive. Watch for signs indicating patient and visitor parking at the main entrance of the American Family Children's Hospital.

**From the East**
If you are coming from the east of Madison, find your way to University Avenue. Stay on University Avenue until it merges with Campus Drive. When University Avenue splits off to the left, you should keep to the right and merge onto Campus Drive. Then turn right on University Bay Drive. Watch for patient and visitor parking signs at the main entrance of the American Family Children's Hospital.




Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 4/2026 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#5634