

Special Testing Services

Requests for additional genetic testing for California Cryobank donors are frequently accommodated because of their potential to reveal conditions that may increase the risk for medical problems in donor-conceived individuals. Before requesting any special testing, please be sure to review ALL the following information about the process. Doing so will help you to plan your treatment cycles accordingly and to better understand the limitations of this service.

1. Contact one of our reproductive genetic specialists at 877-743-6384 to learn more about the options available and approximate cost of testing. You will usually be required to provide us with copies of your, your partner's, or egg source's genetic test results so that we can understand the need for your request and/or so that we can review appropriate testing options on the donor based on your results.
2. Contact your healthcare provider to discuss the testing options available and to determine which test for the donor is appropriate for your needs. We recommend that you meet with a genetic counselor to help you understand testing options in detail, including a discussion of the risks, benefits, and limitations of each test. You can locate a genetic counselor in your area at www.nsgc.org under the "Find a Counselor" link.
3. You and your physician will be required to return completed test forms to our genetics department to document the specific test requested, the donor to be tested, and to authorize payment for the special test expenses. Expenses may include laboratory fees, coordination expenses, donor compensation, phlebotomy, non-clinical vials, shipping, and other related expenses.
4. Your request will be reviewed by our genetics teams and one of our physicians to determine if the test is appropriate for performing on a donor. If your request is approved, we will contact your donor to determine if the donor is willing and available to participate in testing. Our donors are aware of, and frequently able to accommodate, these requests. However, you will be informed if the donor is unavailable or declines to participate.
5. The amount of time it takes to complete special testing will vary greatly (from weeks to months), depending on the specific test and the availability of the donor. Once we know the donor's availability and the time required for laboratory analysis for that test, we will provide you with an approximate date to expect the results. This will help you to confirm that the timing is suitable for your needs. California Cryobank **cannot guarantee that genetic test results will be available by a specific date or in time for a specific procedure, nor do we recommend you ship vials or start your reproductive treatments until after the test is completed.**
6. We strongly recommend that you order vials from your donor BEFORE testing is performed. California Cryobank **cannot guarantee that vials will be available from the donor at the time that the special test is completed.**
7. If the donor's special test result is positive or abnormal, and it's determined that using that donor would mean there is an increased risk for that specific medical issue in the donor-conceived child, we can facilitate a vial exchange of that donor's vials for vials from a different donor — **ONLY IF your donor vials are stored with California Cryobank.** The fee for the exchange will be waived, but you will be responsible for any differences in costs for the vials.
8. California Cryobank's genetics department will inform you about the donor's test results when testing has been completed. We recommend that you discuss the donor's results with your personal healthcare provider to determine if that donor is appropriate for your needs.

Please contact our genetics department for additional assistance and information on special testing.

Email: genetics@cryobank.com

Phone: 877-743-6384

Fax: 888-317-4725

Office hours: 8:00 am through 5:00 pm, Pacific Time, Monday through Friday