

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 where an affected child is sick for life and usually does not have a normal lifespan.

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. Bottom line: 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 treats all patients as if this test was covered as an in-network benefit under their plan. As with any medical bill, patients will be responsible for co-pays, co-insurances, or deductibles according to their insurance plans. However, regardless of the insurance plan, Counsyl will always bill patients according to their in network benefits. This means that you will always have the lowest possible out-of-pocket cost. *Please note: you will be charged a \$50 administrative fee by SRM for Counsyl testing. This fee is not billable to insurance and is due at the time the specimen is collected.*

Insurance:

- a. Entirely covered; no out of pocket expense for you.
- b. In the event the patient has not met their in-network deductible the maximum possible out-of-pocket cost to you is \$498 per test.
- c. If the in-network deductible has been met you would only be responsible for the co-pay or co-insurance.

No Insurance:

Cash price is \$349 per test which is the total out-of-pocket expense for you (does not get applied to deductible).