



Finding genetic counseling and medical genetics services

The Internet today makes it easy to locate a healthcare professional who can answer your genetics questions.

Depending on your needs, you may want to consult with a medical geneticist, a genetic counselor, or both types of professionals.

- If you or someone in your family needs a medical diagnosis, or if you have questions about a diagnosis, medical geneticists may be the right choice. **Medical geneticists** are physicians (MDs) with special training in genetics, so they evaluate patients, conduct physical exams, and order tests. They may also be able to help patients manage their conditions.
- If you or someone in your family has a health condition that has already been diagnosed, and you want to know about genetic testing, a **genetic counselor** may be your right choice. Genetic counselors aren't MDs, but they typically have a graduate-level degree in genetic counseling, which allows them to discuss genetic risk with patients, provide them with educational information and support, and connect them with additional resources.
- If you or someone in your family has already received genetic testing, but you want more information about the genetic test results, either a genetic counselor, or a medical geneticist may be able to help.

Use these recommended online resources to help you search for an appropriate healthcare professional:

American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) Clinic Services Search Engine, at acmg.net/gis/

This database offers the locations of medical genetics centers, rather than the names of individual healthcare professionals. These centers often have both medical geneticists and genetic counselors on staff.

Tips: - There are three ways to search this database: by the specific name of a genetic clinic; by city, state, or zip code (usually the easiest way); or by genetic service type(s).

National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) Find a Genetic Counselor, at nsgc.org/p/cm/ld/fid=164

This directory allows you to search for genetic counselors by state, city, zip code, counselor's name, work setting, type of specialty, or a combination of these criteria.

Tips: - If you live in a rural or remote area, and your first search produces no nearby results, you may want to consider clicking the box for "Telephone Counseling Service."

- If you'd prefer to meet in person with a genetic counselor, click the box for "Sees Patients."

Pairnomix empowers patients living with rare disease by performing personalized genetic research that enables physicians to make better-informed healthcare decisions. We're here to answer your questions about genetic research.

Contact us to learn more.

Pairnomix works with medical geneticists and genetic counselors, but itself does not provide genetic counseling.