



Hemoglobinopathies Screening

What are Hemoglobinopathies?

Hemoglobinopathies are a group of genetic issues that change a person's hemoglobin. The hemoglobin carries oxygen in the blood. There are 3 types of hemoglobinopathies; Sickle Cell Disease, Alpha Thalassemia and Beta Thalassemia.

Who is at higher risk of having a hemoglobinopathy?

If you have ancestry from Africa, Southeast Asian or Mediterranean you may be at higher risk of being a carrier.

Is testing covered by my insurance?

Although this simple test is highly recommended for specific ancestry, insurance coverage varies greatly. For this reason, it is recommended that patients check with their insurance company to see if this test is covered. To check coverage, call the customer service number on the back of your card and give the representative the following information:

Diagnosis Code:

Z13.0

Test Code:

85025 (CBC), 83020 (Hgb electrophoresis), 81257 (alpha thalassemia), 85660 (RBC sickle cell screen)

What if my test is negative?

A negative test indicates that your risk of being a carrier is extremely small. No additional testing is recommended for you or the baby's father.

What if my test is positive?

A positive result indicates that you are a carrier of the abnormal gene that causes hemoglobinopathies. If your test is positive, your doctor will recommend that the baby's father undergo the same test.

What if I've been tested in the past?

If you have had hemoglobinopathies screening in the past, please tell us! Your result will not change, so repeating the test is not necessary. We will simply add your result into your medical record.