KNOW YOUR GENETICS
Fact Sheet

Cook County Dept. of Public Health | BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

12.5K

About 12,500 infants are diagnosed with 1 of 29 core conditions annually.

Source: CDC

*Your family history of medical illnesses and your DNA can help determine your likelihood of developing certain medical conditions and passing them down to your children. That's why genetic screening and testing matter. They empower you to pursue treatment **early** for health disorders and better manage your family's health.*

Types of Genetic Screening and Testing

Genetic screenings evaluate your risk of developing a genetic health disorder, such as cancer, while genetics tests identify the disorder. Genetic testing involves collecting a sample of blood, saliva, skin, hair or other tissue.

SOME SCREENINGS AND TESTS TO BE AWARE OF:

Newborn screening	performed when a baby is just 24 to 48 hours old.
Prenatal screening	checks for Down syndrome, Edwards syndrome, spina bifida and other disorders.
Carrier screening	checks if you carry the genes for cystic fibrosis, Tay-Sachs and other disorders.
Sickle cell anemia	screens for a group of red blood cell disorders that trigger severe pain and health complications.
Red Flags 4 Genetics Checklist	determines if a child might have birth defects, developmental delays or early onset of disease.
Lynch syndrome	screens for an inherited genetic condition that significantly raises a person's risk of developing cancer.
Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)	screens for a group of genetic neuromuscular disorders that cause certain muscles to weaken and waste away.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT **KNOWYOURGENETICS.ORG** OR EMAIL **HEALTHYCOOK@COOKCOUNTYHHS.ORG**.