



jscreen's guide to testing in the Orthodox Jewish community

Our Mission

Provide access to reproductive carrier screening for common and serious conditions to prevent babies from being born with devastating genetic diseases

Provide access to hereditary cancer testing for those wishing to learn more about their cancer risks

Help ensure high-risk couples and individuals receive counseling about their results, as well as provide appropriate screening and prevention options

jscreen provides access to state of the art reproductive carrier screening and hereditary cancer testing. We work with experts in genetics, reproductive medicine, and cancer. Testing is affordable and accessible to anyone in the US. All testing and genetic counseling is done from home. jscreen's program fee is \$49 (includes: test order & access to our genetic counselors) or \$69 for both tests. Lab fees are billed separately. Please visit jscreen.org for more detailed information on submitting your bill.

Our team is sensitive to the social and religious needs of the frum community and includes Orthodox genetic counselors who can address any questions or concerns throughout the process. Our staff understands the shidduch process and takes extreme caution in adhering to the highest standards of privacy and confidentiality.



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🌐 jscreen.org

📷 [@getjscreened](https://www.instagram.com/getjscreened)



Reproductive carrier screening

Hereditary cancer testing

Inheritance

Most of the diseases on the reproductive carrier screening panel that jscreen provides access to are autosomal recessive, meaning that both parents must be carriers of the same disease in order for their children to be at risk. Other diseases on the panel may be transmitted by only one parent. The panel includes over 260 conditions.

The vast majority of cancer gene mutations are inherited in an autosomal dominant manner. With any pregnancy, there would be a 50% chance of passing that mutation on to the next generation. The panel includes over 40 genes that can increase the risk of over 10 types of cancer.

Know the risks

Carrier screening is recommended for everyone planning to start or add to their family. Carriers of recessive diseases are not usually symptomatic, so carrier screening is the best way to assess reproductive risks.

The presence of a mutation in a cancer gene increases an individual's personal risk of certain forms of cancer. Approximately 1 in 40 individuals of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry are affected by a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation. Testing of other cancer genes is recommended in the context of a family or personal history of certain forms of cancer.

Take responsibility

Couples should learn their results in advance of a pregnancy to make informed and independent decisions about the future of their families.

Information regarding elevated cancer risks can save lives. Additional and more frequent screenings, and even preventative interventions can help prevent cancer or detect it at an early, more treatable, stage. Not knowing about increased risks does not mean they are not there; knowledge is power.

Erase the stigma

We aim to remove the stigma of genetic testing through proper education and access to resources. Advocating for one's health should supersede communal ramifications of any kind. We aim to make open discourse the new normal, and prevent fear of judgement from getting in the way of testing.