



Cystic Fibrosis (CF) – Carrier Screening

Medicare Update

Medicare has made changes to its schedule for Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Carrier Screening effective 1 July 2018.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Carrier Screening is now Medicare rebated when requested by a Specialist or Consultant Physician under a number of different settings.

General Practitioners can continue to request these tests however your patient will be privately billed with no Medicare rebate available.

Item No.	Patient Phenotype	Virtus Diagnostics Fee	Medicare Rebate
73345	An individual with symptoms suggestive of a diagnosis of CF.	\$425	\$425
73346	Determination of pregnant female carrier status carrying a fetus with ultrasound findings of echogenic bowel.	\$425	\$425
73347	Determination of prospective parent's carrier status with a fetus with ultrasound findings of echogenic bowel.	\$425	\$425
73348	Testing for carrier status with a laboratory established history of Cystic Fibrosis variants. <i>This test may involve Cascade Testing, see below.</i>	\$285	\$212.50
73349	Testing of an individual who has a partner who is a laboratory established Cystic Fibrosis variant carrier for the purposes of determining reproductive risk.	\$425	\$425
73350	Testing of a pregnant patient where one or both prospective parents are known to be a carrier of a pathogenic CF variant to determine whether the fetus is affected.	\$285	\$212.50

For a full description of each item number log on to www.mbsonline.com.au

Requests made by Specialists or Consultant Physicians for individuals to be screened where there is a known carrier in the family, must have a copy of the original laboratory report or full notation of the mutation detected. If this is not supplied, no Medicare rebate is applicable.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) cascade testing involves screening close family members of affected or known carrier individuals for pathogenic variants. A Medicare rebate is available for the following family members who have a minimum of 6% shared genetic material: parents, children, full siblings, half siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, first cousins and first cousins once removed.

To find out further information on Medicare eligibility please phone our Genetics Department on 1800 837 284.



Cystic Fibrosis (CF) – Cascade Testing

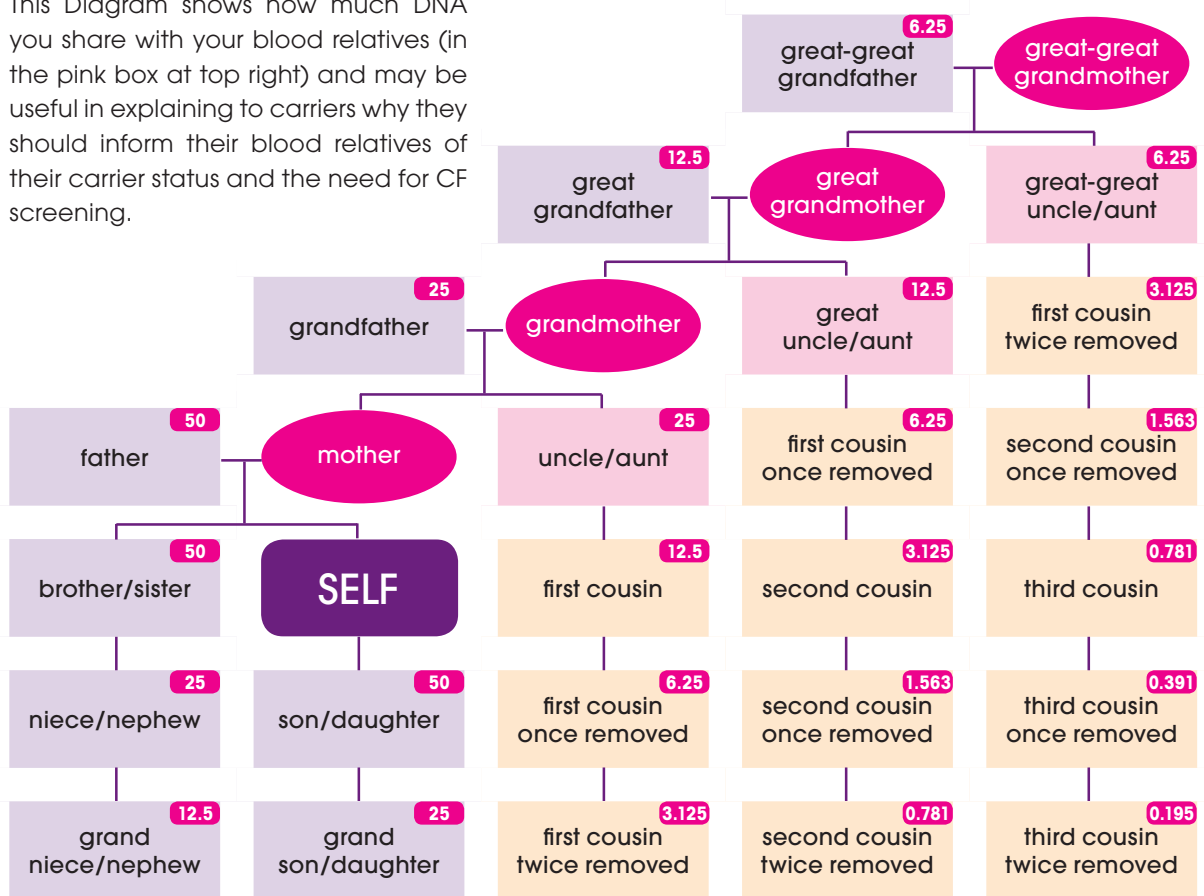
Virtus Diagnostics offers the most comprehensive coverage for Cystic Fibrosis testing utilising the latest technology.

Our laboratory offers full sequencing of 27 exons and 5 introns in the CFTR gene detecting more variants than current commercial panels screening a limited numbers of mutations (eg 50). With our screening there is a minimum 100 fold reduction in the risk of a patient being a carrier.

- Our results are available within 10 business days.
- Cystic Fibrosis can be requested as an individual test or as part of our Virtus Genetic Screen.
- Patient information brochures are available on our website at www.virtusdiagnostics.com.au

How much DNA do you share with your family?

This Diagram shows how much DNA you share with your blood relatives (in the pink box at top right) and may be useful in explaining to carriers why they should inform their blood relatives of their carrier status and the need for CF screening.



For further information on our Cystic Fibrosis and our Genetic Testing visit our website at www.virtusdiagnostics.com.au or phone our Genetics Laboratory on 1800 837 284.

