

Why should I choose Genetic Support Foundation?

The genetic counselors at Genetic Support Foundation (GSF) are experienced and certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling. We focus on a collaborative approach to give our patients thorough, thoughtful and fact-based care. Our genetic counselors meet with you via telehealth, meaning that your appointment will conveniently take place via a video conference on a computer, tablet or smartphone. There are many reasons to consult with a genetic counselor. More information can be [found here](#).

How do telehealth appointments work?

Telehealth appointments can be done from a doctor's office, your home, or anywhere else with a good internet connection. We recommend that you plan to be in a quiet and private location for the meeting, as we often discuss personal medical and family history information.

After scheduling an appointment, you will receive a welcome email with more information. At the time of your appointment, you and the genetic counselor will connect via a secure video conference site which will allow you to see and hear them. After your appointment, a summary letter will be provided to you along with our recommendations.

Can anyone get telehealth genetic counseling with GSF?

Yes - although some states have limited availability at this time.

Will my insurance cover telehealth genetic counseling?

In some cases, insurance will cover genetic counseling services provided by telehealth. Coverage varies by state and also by insurance plan. We are pleased to assist you by billing your insurance. However, you are required to provide us with the most correct and updated information about their insurance, and will be responsible for any charges incurred if the information provided is not correct or updated. Patients are responsible for the payment of

co-pays, co-insurance, deductibles, and all other procedures or treatment not covered by their insurance plan. We encourage you to check with your insurance to see the limitations of your specific plan.

Alternatively, you may elect to pay for the visit prior to your appointment using your credit card and submit claims to insurance at your own discretion.

If you feel you may qualify for financial assistance for this service, contact GSF to access our financial aid policy.

How are Telehealth visits billed?

All appointments are [scheduled online](#), with payment or insurance information due at the time of scheduling. The fee for a genetic counseling appointment is \$200. If you cancel or reschedule less than 48 hours before your appointment, we will charge a \$60 cancellation fee. Cancellations or reschedules prior to 48 hours from the appointment will result in a full refund.

How Much Does a Genetic Counseling Visit Cost?

The cost for genetic counseling is \$200 which can be paid securely online by credit card. Or arrangements can be made to pay by check. It is both the philosophy and practice at GSF that genetic services, including genetic counseling, should be available to those in need, regardless of ability to pay. For this reason, we have financial aid available for those who qualify.

How do I know if I am Eligible for Financial Aid?

Eligibility for financial assistance is based on financial need at the time of application and granted on a sliding scale based on a percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Applicants may be asked for documentation of financial resources such as copies of IRS Form 1040, W-2 statements, copies of recent paychecks, and/or bank statements showing activity. If you are interested in applying for financial aid, please [contact us](#).

Upon completion of the financial assistance application, the applicant will be notified of a decision in writing within ten (10) business days. To learn if you qualify for financial assistance please [contact GSF directly](#) for an application.

What type of appointments are available?

Cancer genetic counseling \$200 - 50 minutes

This consultation is intended for individuals with a personal or family history of cancer (e.g. breast, colon, ovarian, uterine, prostate, etc.), individuals who have a relative who has a confirmed genetic mutation (such as a BRCA gene mutation), or individuals who have had previous genetic testing and would benefit from expert result interpretation. The appointment generally consists of a review of the three generation family history, interpretation, risk assessment, education, review of testing options, test result interpretation, and recommendations for medical management.

*Meets CIGNA, AETNA, United Healthcare and SelectHealth standards

Prenatal genetic counseling \$200 - 50 minutes

Prenatal genetic counseling for patients who are considering genetic screening or testing during pregnancy and follow-up to discuss test results and next steps. The prenatal appointments are also ideal for patients who have already had testing or screening but would like to review their results with a genetic counselor to better understand what they mean for the pregnancy.

Preconception genetic counseling \$200 - 50 minutes

Preconception genetic counseling for patients/couples who are concerned about their chance to have a baby with a genetic condition or birth defect. The appointment consists of a thorough review of the family and medical history and discussion of the overall potential benefits, limitations and drawbacks of genetic testing.

Personal or family history of heart disease or condition \$200 - 50 minutes

Cardiovascular genetic counseling involves providing risk assessment and sometimes genetic testing for heart disease. Since cardiovascular disease, including heart disease and stroke, is the leading killer of American men and women, knowing whether you may have an increased genetic risk is very important. Many types of heart disease, including abnormal heart rhythms (arrhythmias), aneurysms, and heart attacks, can have a hereditary component. If you are found to have a genetic risk for heart disease, there are ways to help

prevent or treat it before symptoms begin.

Review of genetic test results \$200 - 50 minutes

The results of genetic tests are not always straightforward, which often makes them challenging to interpret and explain. When interpreting test results, health care professionals consider a person's medical history, family history, and the type of genetic test that was done. Meeting with a genetic counselor may help you understand some of the limitations of your genetic test results as well as what appropriate next steps may be to help keep you healthy.

Does Genetic Support Foundation provide the genetic testing?

Depending on what we are seeing you for, genetic testing may be ordered or recommended. Genetic Support Foundation does not perform the testing, but we can help identify the best laboratories to use for tests that may be appropriate for you and we can help coordinate next steps. Genetic testing is typically performed on a saliva or blood sample. We can work with you and your doctor to determine the best way to follow-up with test results.

Is my information secure?

At Genetic Support Foundation it is vitally important that we protect your privacy and secure all electronic data. We ensure that storage of any health-related information (audio, visual, or paper) follows federal regulations. Should you require special consideration please contact our office.

Have more questions, or would like to schedule an appointment?

<https://www.geneticsupportfoundation.org/schedule/>

Please contact us at:

Genetic Support Foundation

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Email: info@geneticsupportfoundation.org