

Western Washington

Swedish Medical Center

Perinatal Medicine
1229 Madison St.
Nordstrom Tower, Suite 750
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206)386-2101
Fax: (206)386-6715

Eastside Maternal Fetal Medicine

1110 112th Ave NE, Suite 100
Bellevue, WA 98004
Phone: (425) 688-8111
Fax: (425) 688-8110

Evergreen Hospital Medical Center

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

12333 NE 130th Ln, Tan 240
Kirkland, WA 98034
Phone: (425) 899-2200
Fax: (425) 899-2210

Valley Medical Center

Maternal Fetal Medicine

4033 Talbot Road S, #450
Renton, WA 98055
Phone: (425)656-5520
Fax: (425)656-5363

Seattle Children's Hospital

Medical Genetics Clinic

4800 Sand Point Way NE/
PO Box 5371/A7937
Seattle, WA 98105-0371
Phone: (206) 987-2665
Fax: (206) 987-2495

Columbia Health Center

4400 - 37th Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98118
Phone: (206) 296-4650
Fax: (206) 205-0580

Group Health Cooperative

Genetic Services

201 16th Ave E CMB-5
Seattle, WA 98112
Phone: (206) 326-2525
Fax: (206) 326-2010

(For Group Health members only)

Odessa Brown Sickle Cell Clinic

2101 E. Yesler Way
Seattle, WA 98122
Phone: (206) 987-7232
Fax: (206) 329-9764

UW Medical Center

Medical Genetics Clinic

1959 NE Pacific Street/ Box 357720
Seattle, WA 98195-7720
Phone: (206) 598-4030
Fax: (206) 598-3269

UW Medical Center

Prenatal Diagnosis Clinic

1959 NE Pacific Street/ Box 356159
Seattle, WA 98195
Phone: (206) 598-4072
Fax: (206) 598-2359

Madigan Army Medical Center

Medical Genetics

9040 Jackson Ave
Tacoma, WA 98432
Phone: (253)403-3481
Fax: (253)403-8674
*(Services limited to Armed Services
personnel and their dependents)*

MultiCare Regional

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

1105 Division Ave, Suite 201
Tacoma, WA 98405
Phone: (253) 403-9200
Fax: (253) 403-9201

Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

2101 NE 139th St. Suite 260
Vancouver, WA 98686
Phone: (360)487-2870
Fax: (360)487-2879

Eastern Washington

Kadlec Medical Center

712 Swift Blvd, Suite 1
Richland, WA 99352
Phone: (509) 942-2821
Fax: (509) 943-1497

Deaconess Perinatal Services

800 W 5th Ave
Spokane, WA 99204
Phone: (509) 473-3690
Fax: (509) 473-3692

Central Washington Genetics

Program Children's Village

3801 Kern Rd
Yakima, WA 98902
Phone: (509) 574-3260
Fax: (509) 574-3210

Providence Genetics Clinic

105 W 8th Ave, Suite 454
Spokane, WA 99204
Phone: (509)474-3810
Fax: (509)474-3811

Pullman Regional Hospital

The Center for Genetics

1620 SE Summit Ct
Pullman, WA 99163
Phone: (509) 332-5106
Fax: (509) 334-5723

Wenatchee Valley Medical Center

ATTN: Genetics

820 N Chelan Ave
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Phone: (509) 667-7538
Fax: (509) 664-3417

Oregon

Kaiser Permanente

Department of Genetics

3325 N. Interstate Ave.
Portland, OR 97227
Phone: (503) 331-6593
(For Kaiser members only)

Legacy Emanuel Medical Center

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

300 N. Graham Street, Ste 100
Portland, OR 97227
Phone: (503) 413-1122
Fax: (503)413-4238

Northwest Perinatal Center

9701 SW Barnes Road, Ste 299

Portland, OR 97225

Phone: (503) 297-3660
Fax: (503)297-7637

Oregon Health Sciences University

Prenatal Diagnosis and Counseling

3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, OR 97239
Phone: (503) 418-4200

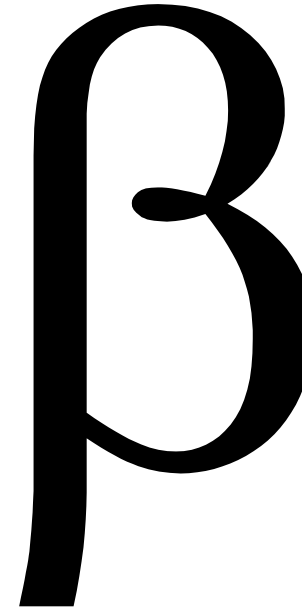
Center for Genetics & Maternal – Fetal Medicine

3355 Riverbend Drive, Suite 210

Springfield, OR 97477

Phone: (541) 349-7600

Beta Thalassemia



Information for parents about beta thalassemia

Revised January 2013



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Revised January 2014

What is hemoglobin?

Hemoglobin is the part of blood that carries oxygen to all parts of the body. The usual type of hemoglobin is called hemoglobin A. Genes that we inherit from our parents determine what type of and how much hemoglobin we have.

What is beta thalassemia?

Hemoglobin is made up of different parts, including beta globin. Beta globin is produced by two genes and when one or both of these genes are not working properly the body makes less hemoglobin. This is called beta thalassemia and occurs in more than one form. One type of beta thalassemia cannot turn into another. Your child will have that type for his or her entire life.

What is beta thalassemia major?

With this type of beta thalassemia, the genes produce very little beta globin, so the effect on the body is large, or major. This can be a very serious disease that will require regular blood transfusions and other medical treatments.

What is beta thalassemia minor?

With this type of beta thalassemia, the genes produce a larger amount of beta globin (still not enough) and the effect is minor. Although beta thalassemia minor does not cause any health problems, you and your baby's doctor should know that it can cause a mild anemia (low number of red blood cells).

How does this affect the rest of our family?

Beta thalassemia is inherited, so you and other family members could also have beta thalassemia and may want to be tested. It is also important to know about your child's beta thalassemia status because future children in your family may be at risk for the same or a different type of beta thalassemia as this child. To have testing done, talk to your health care provider or one of the genetic counselors listed on the back of this pamphlet.

What happens when beta thalassemia is inherited with other abnormal hemoglobins (like Sickle Cell)?

When a person inherits one gene for beta thalassemia from one parent and one gene for sickle hemoglobin (hemoglobin S) from the other parent it is called sickle-beta thalassemia. Sickle-beta thalassemia is similar to sickle cell disease and can cause serious health problems like painful episodes, fatigue, an enlarged spleen, and a higher risk for certain infections. E-beta thalassemia occurs when a person inherits one gene for beta thalassemia from one parent and one gene for hemoglobin E from the other parent. This is also a very serious disorder and will cause severe to moderate anemia. People with sickle-beta thalassemia and E-beta thalassemia should receive regular medical care.

What do I do now?

We recommend that you and your partner have testing done to determine your hemoglobin status. This would provide you with information on your chances of having a future child with beta thalassemia major, sickle-beta thalassemia, or E-beta thalassemia. To have this testing done, talk to your health care provider or one of the genetic counselors listed on the back of this pamphlet. You may also want to share this information with the rest of your family. They may be interested in finding out their hemoglobin status as well.

What can I do if I have more questions?

If you have more questions, you can talk to your child's health care provider or you can contact the Newborn Screening Program using the information below.

Newborn Screening Program
1610 NE 150th Street
Shoreline, WA 98155
Phone: (206) 418-5410
or toll-free 1-866-660-9050
Email: NBS.Prog@doh.wa.gov
Internet: www.doh.wa.gov/nbs

