

Gene Testing Q&A

Q. What is Gene Testing?

A. Gene Testing is where blood or tissue samples are tested for ***inherited genetic conditions*** such as Cardiac conditions (SADS), cancer, eye health, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes etc. These conditions exist in many families in Ireland but we don't know about them until it's too late.

Q. Can we access genetic testing in Ireland now?

A. No, Ireland is the only country in Europe that can't offer these facilities. Shabra Charity are changing this, and we need your help to get these life changing facilities in place in the Monaghan Room of the Mater Hospital this year.

Q. What difference will it make?

A. For many it will be life saving and life changing! Gene Testing will mean precision diagnosis & treatment for people with inherited genetic conditions before any harm is done. Consultants describe it as "the next generation MRI".

Q. What's happening now?

A. In emergency cases only, blood & tissue samples are sent to other countries for testing. Funding is low and diagnosis could take up to 18 months and be very costly. When these facilities are in place, diagnosis will take under 6 weeks and costs will be massively reduced. That's a 90% reduction in waiting time, hopefully a 90% reduction in costs and the facility will be for everyone, not just the emergency cases!

Q. How could it affect me?

A. Most families have a fair idea of their medical history, they'll be aware if cancer, a heart condition, Alzheimers or any other genetic condition has affected their family in the past, but they have no idea if it will affect them. With Genetic Testing they will know and preventative steps can be taken to minimise any damage.

Q. Give me an example?

A. Peter is playing football and has a cardiac arrest and dies...sadly the post mortem states "sudden adult death syndrome" as no abnormality could be found. With the gene testing facilities in the Monaghan Room in the Mater Hospital, a molecular autopsy reveals the culprit gene mutation responsible for his cardiac arrest and a diagnosis is made. All of Peter's first degree relatives (parents, siblings and children) can be tested, diagnosed and a precise treatment put in place.

Example 2. Una's mother died from Breast Cancer when she was just 16. Una is worried for her sisters and her daughter in case they have the same gene. Una and her family can all go for the DNA Gene Testing and get treatment where required.

Q. How can people help?

A. Log on to www.shabracharity.com and **donate €5 now**. It may not just be about you, it's about your children and your children's children. Help make Gene Testing in Ireland happen. Thank you.

What will Gene Testing mean to you and your family?



How can you help?

1. Send us your video story using your mobile phone:

- 30 seconds is the guide, no more than 50 seconds
- Print & use the "Please donate" page below for the video
- Email your video to info@shabracharity.com
- Here's a guide of what we need you to say:

Video content:

I'm _____ from Co. _____

We have a family history of _____

I'm supporting Shabra Charity because :

Gene Testing will save lives and have a positive change on many lives for generations to come.
We need to raise €85,000 by 15th September 2017.
You can help by donating €5 or a donation of your choice on www.shabracharity.com
Every cent raised goes towards the Gene Testing Equipment in the Monaghan Room of the Mater Hospital. Do it for your children. Thank you.

We're the _____ family from Co. _____

We have a family history of _____

We're supporting Shabra Charity because:

Gene Testing will save lives and change many lives for generations to come.
You can help by donating €5 or a donation of your choice on www.shabracharity.com
Every cent raised goes towards the Gene Testing Equipment in the Monaghan Room of the Mater Hospital. Do it for your children. Thank you

Shabra Charity take no fees or admin costs. All funds raised go directly to the cause. Log on to www.shabracharity.com to hear what the consultants say and to find out more about DNA Genomic Sequencing and the work we've been doing.

Tell us your story by doing your own short video clip and emailing it to info@shabracharity.com

#genetesting #monaghanroom #oliverspromise #me&mygenes



Please donate

€5 now

on

www.shabracharity.com

#genetesting

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Thank You

