

# You've found out you may have an inherited retinal disease

Now genetic testing can reveal a clearer path forward

Don't let these common myths hold you back from asking for a genetic test.

## 3 of the most common myths debunked

### MYTH FACT

1

**“There’s no need to get genetic testing if there are no treatments available.”**



**Genetic testing may empower you and your family by giving you valuable ANSWERS:**

- **A**ffirm the genetic cause of your vision loss or impairment
- **N**avigate new insight into how your vision may change over time
- **S**ee if you are eligible for clinical trials or emerging treatments
- **W**eigh the potential risks for other family members
- **E**ducate you about support groups and low-vision resources
- **R**eveal potential health impacts in other areas of your body
- **S**tay in control of your future

2

**“Genetic testing is too expensive.”**



**Genetic testing at reduced or no cost may be available to you.** Your eye specialist or genetic counselor can help connect you with a testing program or work with your insurance.

3

**“No one else in my family has vision issues, so it must not be genetic.”**



**Family history alone doesn't tell the full story.** Sometimes there is no known family history of inherited retinal disease, but it is still genetic.

# Ask your eye specialist about why genetic testing matters

You may have even more questions and that's common. An eye care specialist or genetic counselor may help answer them. **Just scan the QR code for more information about how to find a specialist near you.**



## Check off the questions you would like to discuss:



### Where to begin:

- What are the steps to getting a genetic test?
- What does a genetic counselor do? And when do we partner with them?



### How genetic testing works:

- Will genetic testing confirm a diagnosis of inherited retinal disease?
- How accurate is genetic testing?
- Should anyone else in my family get tested?
- Will genetic testing reveal anything more about my health or the health of my loved ones?



### What to expect next:

- How long does genetic testing usually take?
- What are the possible results that could happen?
- If a genetic cause of vision loss or impairment is confirmed, are you aware of any trials or treatments underway?

**If you have any other questions, make sure to bring them to your meeting with your eye specialist or genetic counselor:**

---

---

---

At your next appointment, be sure to **share this list and discuss the questions you've checked off.**