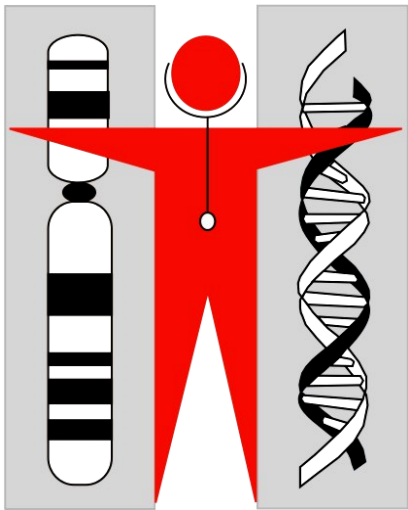


Information

Leaflet on

Clinical Genetic Service

醫學遺傳服務 資料小冊



SCOPE & OBJECTIVES

The Clinical Genetic Service provides comprehensive genetic services on a territory-wide basis, playing a primary role in genetic diagnosis, counselling and prevention. The major services provided include:

1. genetic counselling
2. genetic screening

GENETIC COUNSELLING CLINIC

Services Offered

The clinic, under the supervision of the Consultant Clinical Geneticist, serves families as well as individual patients. Diagnoses are made after history taking, physical examination, pedigree analysis and genetic investigations (including cytogenetic, biochemical genetic and molecular genetic studies). Doctors at the clinics will provide counselling to patients or parents regarding the etiology and natural course of the disease in question, as well as the estimated recurrence risk to other family members. Genetic counselling helps potential parents to make informed decisions on family planning. Through referral to the Prenatal Diagnostic Clinic, expectant mothers will receive prenatal diagnostic investigations (fetal ultrasonography, amniocentesis, chorionic villus sampling) to make early diagnosis of genetic diseases possible.

Once a diagnosis is made and genetic counselling is given, patients will continue follow-up and management at the referring unit. Nevertheless, they may come back to the genetic counselling clinic for further counselling when necessary. Patient information obtained during consultation will be kept strictly confidential and will not be released (even to family members) without the consent of the patient.

Who Should Attend the Genetic Counselling Clinic?

Any person with a family history of the following conditions may attend the Genetic Counselling Clinic:

- Any genetic-related disorder
- Multiple congenital anomalies syndromes
- Mental retardation of unknown cause
- Recurrent abortions of unknown cause
- Suspected sex chromosomal disorders including primary infertility in males and primary amenorrhoea in females
- Advanced maternal age (over 35 years old)

Clinic Locations and Consultation Hours

Genetic counselling clinics operate at the following locations:

- 4/F Ambulatory Care Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kowloon

Every Wednesday:	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Every Friday:	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- L-Block Clinic, 1/F, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kowloon

First & Third Wednesday:	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
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- 1/F Cheung Sha Wan Jockey Club Clinic, Shamshuipo, Kowloon

Every Tuesday:	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Every Thursday:	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Appointment Booking

The clinic only accepts referrals from doctors working in hospitals, government out-patient clinics, specialist clinics, family planning clinics, maternal and child health centres and in the private sector. As preliminary assessment and investigations are often required, self-referrals or referrals from other health professionals are not accepted.

For Hong Kong residents, appointments can be made at:

- 4/F Ambulatory Care Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Paediatric Section), Tel: **3506 6226**
- 3/F Cheung Sha Wan Jockey Club Clinic, Tel: **2725 3773**

For private patients, government servants (or Hospital Authority staff) and their dependents, appointments can be made at:

- L-Block Clinic, 1/F Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Tel: **3506 6123**

Urgent appointments will be arranged under the following situations:

- Immediate diagnosis required to guide management
- Survival of proband at stake
- Mother already pregnant
- Children with ambiguous external genitalia
- Extreme parental anxiety

For further enquiries, please call Tel: **2725 3773**.

Charges

The charges vary with different categories of patients.

Category A:

Eligible Persons (Hong Kong residents entitled to the health services provided by the Government):

- First consultation: HK\$135
- Follow-up consultation: HK\$80
- No additional charge for any investigation.

Category B:

Government servants (or **Hospital Authority staff**) and their dependents (in case of doubt, please check with clerical officer i/c, Tel: **3506 6123**):

- No Charge on production of form GF 181(Rev.)

Category C:

Non-eligible Persons:

- Each consultation : HK\$1,190
- Chromosome study : HK\$4,000 – 9,000
- Molecular genetic testing : HK\$5,000–15,000

GENETIC SCREENING CLINIC

The Neonatal Screening Programme screens for glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency and congenital hypothyroidism for all newborn babies delivered in the hospitals under the Hospital Authority. The service is provided free-of-charge. Patient recall, confirmatory investigations and counselling are conducted at the genetic screening clinic at the Clinical Genetic Service Centre.

Parents of confirmed G6PD-deficient babies will receive notification from the hospital where their babies are born or directly from the Genetic Screening Unit. The

medical staff of the clinic will provide appropriate counselling to parents of affected babies.

For babies with suspected congenital hypothyroidism, their parents will be informed to bring their children to the Genetic Screening Clinic at the Clinical Genetic Service Centre for further assessment. Doctors at the clinic will perform a detailed physical examination and appropriate investigations will be performed. Upon confirmation of the disease, the child will be referred to a hospital paediatric clinic for treatment and follow-up.

Babies born in private hospitals are also offered free-of-charge screening. Parents may consult their obstetricians or paediatricians for details.

For enquiries, please call Tel: **2708 7425**.

For hotline, please call Tel: **2361 9979**.

CLINICAL GENETIC SERVICE CENTRE

The Clinical Genetic Service Centre is located at 1-3/F, Cheung Sha Wan Jockey Club Clinic, 2 Kwong Lee Road, Shamshuipo, Kowloon. The office hours are:

Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

For enquiries, please call our hotline, Tel: **2361 9979**.