

Guidelines for health professionals about genetic testing, counselling and research in Europe

YOU MAY FIND THE INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE USEFUL IF YOU ARE:

- *a health professional, and have a patient who is considering taking a predictive or diagnostic test for a genetic disorder.*
- *employed in genetic research and talking to people who may be considering allowing samples of their biological material to be stored in a DNA bank and used in research.*

The information has been divided into sections, containing information relevant to health professionals and researchers in different situations.

Have a look at the information menu at the bottom of this page and click on the links to the different areas of relevance

Here is some other useful information about genetic testing and research in Europe:

- The web link below will take you to detailed information about the provision of genetic counselling services across Europe:

http://www.eurogenestest.org/professionals/info/public/unit3/regulations_genetic_counselling.xhtml

- The following link will take you to a glossary of genetic terms:

<http://www.eurogenestest.org/professionals/education/info/public/unit6/patientsLeafletsEnglish/geneticGlossaryEnglish.xhtml>

- Visit this URL for a series of leaflets about aspects of genetic testing in a range of European languages:

<http://www.eurogenestest.org/professionals/education/info/public/unit6/patients.xhtml>

The information menu

- **Informed consent:** *how you can help individuals to make the best choices for them about genetic testing and DNA research.*
- **DNA banking / biobanking:** *information about DNA banking around Europe, guidelines for good practice concerning the collection and storage of human biological material.*
- **Gender and family:** *the different concerns and issues faced by men, women, and their families when considering taking a genetic test.*
- **Cultural and biological diversity / information for vulnerable groups:** *the concerns felt by groups and individuals from different or minority social and cultural backgrounds.*
- **Access and benefit sharing:** *information to help you explain to people why it is worthwhile to take part in genetic research by donating biological samples to a DNA bank.*