



Genetics Uncoded:

Facts about Factor XI Deficiency



What Your Test Results Mean

Carriers of Factor XI deficiency, also known as hemophilia C, have an increased risk for bleeding. Because risk for offspring depends on both parents' carrier status, carrier testing regardless of sex is recommended.

● Factor XI Deficiency Explained

Factor XI deficiency is a mild, inherited bleeding disorder. It is typically less severe than either hemophilia types A or B as it rarely causes spontaneous bleeds; however, bleeding episodes may occur with trauma, certain types of surgery, and dental procedures. Individuals with Factor XI deficiency are prone to bruising and nosebleeds. Affected women often have heavy menstrual periods and may experience prolonged bleeding after childbirth. A variety of treatment options are available to prevent bleeding. Life expectancy is considered normal if proper precautions concerning surgeries are taken.

● How the Genetics Work

Factor XI is an autosomal recessive blood disorder caused by pathogenic variants in the *F11* gene. In general, individuals have two copies of the *F11* gene. Carriers of Factor XI deficiency have a single variant in one copy of the *F11* gene while individuals with Factor XI deficiency have variants in both copies of their genes, one inherited from each parent. Risk for two carriers to have a child with the disorder is 25%.

Questions? Contact us at **1-866-661-7966** to set up an appointment to discuss your results in more detail with a Clarity Genetics genetic counselor.