

First pre-test appointment

This appointment takes place with a member of the clinical genetics team, usually the person that you have already met. We welcome and encourage you to bring someone along to this appointment who can be there to help and support you.

No test will be done at this appointment.

The aim of this appointment is to look at the advantages and disadvantages of knowing for certain whether you are going to develop symptoms of HD. Once we have given you the test results you can never go back so it is important that you are clear that you want to know before we test you.

The sort of issues we consider at this appointment are practical things like the impact of having the test on your working life or if there are financial implications of having the test. You will also have the opportunity to discuss the emotional impact of having the test and to consider the way a result might affect family relationships or how having a test might affect the way you feel about the future.

Following this appointment, we would wait for you to contact us before arranging any further appointments.

Second pre-test appointment

This appointment gives you the chance to talk through any matters that may have changed or arisen since your last appointment and if you wish to go ahead with testing, a blood sample will be taken at this appointment. A brief medical examination is also carried out before the blood sample is taken.

The results of the test take around three weeks to arrive and we will arrange your results appointment when the blood sample is taken.

The results appointment

This appointment is to give you the results of the test in person. We never give results over the phone or in a letter and we ask that you bring someone with you when you come for your result.

The staff involved in your appointment will not know the results of your test until shortly before you do. This is so that you can telephone us at any time without worrying that we know something and are not telling you.