

Referrals

Referrals to the TCGS can be forwarded directly to:

Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Service
C/o The Royal Hobart Hospital
GPO Box 1061
Hobart, Tasmania, 7001

Please include patient's name, address, telephone number/s, date of birth and the reason for the referral. If you have any relevant test results it would be helpful if you could include them.

Follow up counselling is available to ensure ongoing support, to review previous information and to answer any new questions as they arise.

We are also able to provide helpful information about community resources and relevant support groups.

Charges

The TCGS is funded by the Government of Tasmania. There are currently no out-of-pocket expenses to patients for genetic counselling.

Genetic testing is expensive and few genetic tests are funded by Medicare. However, clinically relevant genetic tests are provided free of charge to patients referred to the TCGS.

How to Access

Clinical Genetics Clinics are held at the following Centres:

- Hobart: Royal Hobart Hospital
- Launceston: Launceston General Hospital
- Latrobe: North West Regional Hospital

The Genetic Counsellors are based at the Royal Hobart Hospital and can be contacted by health professionals and patients at any time to discuss genetic issues or to arrange Clinic appointments.

Telephone: 03 6166 8296
Fax: 03 6173 0328
Website: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au

Tasmanian Health Service (THS)

The THS integrates acute, primary and community services. This integration has given service providers the flexibility to ensure people have the best services we can provide, as close as possible to where they live. The THS includes Tasmania's largest hospital and referral centre plus a range of rural hospitals, multi-purpose and community health centres, supported by a wide range of community based services.

The THS welcomes feedback from patients and visitors to help us better understand your needs and improve care. Contact the Quality and Patient Safety Service – Consumer Engagement on (03) 6166 8154.



Tasmanian Health Service Buildings are smoke-free sites.



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Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Service

Consumer Information Brochure

TASMANIAN
HEALTH
SERVICE



Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Service

Medical Genetics is now an integral part of modern medical practice. The recent explosion in knowledge about the human genome means that a Genetic Service can contribute to clinical care in a wide range of conditions affecting both children and adults.

The Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Service (TCGS) provides diagnosis, counselling and management advice for individuals and families with a wide range of genetic conditions including:

- Familial cancer
(eg breast cancer and bowel cancer)
- Babies with birth defects
- Undiagnosed intellectual disability
- Chromosome disorders
- Familial neurological and muscle disorders
- Hereditary cardiac disorders
- Skeletal and connective tissue disorders
- Rare genetic syndromes
- Metabolic disorders

The TCGS also provides a range of services to people who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy – including:

- Counselling and carrier testing to clarify risk of genetic conditions
- Prenatal diagnosis for various genetic conditions
- Counselling regarding genetic issues of infertility and in-vitro fertilization
- Counselling regarding screening tests before or during pregnancy
- Diagnosis and counselling when a birth defect is detected during pregnancy



The TCGS aims to assist people in coming to terms with the diagnosis of genetic disorders and facilitate the making of informed choices about genetic issues. Counselling and information are provided to people with a family history of a genetic disorder, or who are concerned that they may be at increased risk of inheriting or passing on a disorder to their children.



The TCGS is staffed by a Clinical Geneticist (a medical specialist in genetics) and Genetic Counsellors (allied health professionals trained in both genetics and counselling). The TCGS also works closely with local specialists in a number of disciplines.