


[Order a Test](#) [Get Your Results](#) [FAQ's](#) [About Us](#) [Services](#) [Pharmacy Schedules](#)

"Since 1987, the most trusted consumer lab testing service in the country."

## Menu

### Pages

- [Home](#)
- [Customer Testimonials on Blood Testing](#)
  - [A Thyroid Test Saved Mrs. Johnson's life thanks to HealthCheckUSA](#)
- [Low Cost Blood Testing at HealthCheckUSA](#)
  - [Blood Tests](#)
    - [Basic Health and Wellness Blood Testing Assessment](#)
    - [Blood Type Test](#)
    - [Complete Blood Count Test \(CBC Test\)](#)
    - [Total Health and Wellness Blood Testing](#)
    - [Women's Basic Hormone Profile](#)
  - [Cancer Screenings](#)
  - [Diurnal Cortisol and DHEA-S Adrenal Function Saliva Tests from ZRT Labs](#)
  - [STD Lab Tests](#)
    - [HerpeSelect Herpes HSV-1 and HSV-2 IgG STD Blood Test](#)
  - [Thyroid Tests](#)
    - [Thyroid Antibody Test: TAA and TPO](#)
    - [Thyroid Test Panel](#)
- [Montana Health Screening](#)
- [Stop the Thyroid Madness](#)
  - [Comprehensive Hormone Testing for Women](#)
  - [Ferritin Blood Analysis](#)
  - [Iron Test Panel](#)
  - [Men's Basic Hormone Assessment](#)
  - [Thyroid Panel II \(T3/T4 Free & TSH\)](#)
  - [Vitamin Testing \(Vitamin D, B-12\)](#)
- [Tennessee Screening Event](#)

"HealthCheckUSA has been the ultimate tool in improving my health."



« [Interpreting Lab Tests](#)

[Testing for Diabetes: Simple, Easy and Affordable](#) »

## Hereditary Hemochromatosis: A Shockingly Common Genetic Disease

### What is hereditary hemochromatosis?

Hereditary hemochromatosis, referred to as HH, is a common iron overload genetic disorder. A person with hereditary hemochromatosis absorbs and stores excess amounts of iron in the body. This extra iron settles in the liver, skin, and pancreas and, if left untreated, gradually develops iron deposits that cause organ and tissue deterioration.

### What causes hereditary hemochromatosis?

The HFE gene in humans monitors iron absorption; a mutated HFE gene allows too much [iron absorption](#) and causes hereditary hemochromatosis. People with the hereditary hemochromatosis gene are carriers for the disease. If two carriers have a child, that child will develop hereditary hemochromatosis. Recently, researchers from both the European Molecular Biology Laboratory and the University of Heidelberg, Germany, discovered that [HH is a liver disease](#). Research lab mice that were genetically engineered to lack HFE only in liver cells showed all the key features of hereditary hemochromatosis.

### How common is hereditary hemochromatosis?

Hereditary hemochromatosis is one of the most common genetic diseases in the U.S.; almost 1 in 10 American Caucasians carries the gene. Caucasians with ancestry in Northern Europe are most commonly the carriers of the HH gene. Hereditary hemochromatosis is uncommon but still occurs among African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos.

### What's the danger of hereditary hemochromatosis?

If left untreated, iron accumulations due to hereditary hemochromatosis could potentially lead to other serious health issues, such as [arthritis](#), liver failure, congestive heart failure, impotence, skin pigmentation, and pancreas damage. Without previous testing for hereditary hemochromatosis, most people are unaware that they have the disease. Most symptoms don't appear until after about age 30 for men and 50 for women.

## Archives

- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)

## Categories

- [blood tests](#) (19)
  - [Blood Testing](#) (7)
- [cancer](#) (4)
- [cancer screenings](#) (7)
- [cardiovascular health](#) (5)
- [Corporate Wellness](#) (1)
- [DNA analysis](#) (2)
- [DNA testing](#) (4)
- [employee wellness](#) (1)
- [health screening](#) (13)
- [health tests](#) (19)
- [HealthCheckUSA News](#) (1)
- [heart attacks](#) (3)
- [heart disease](#) (4)
- [heart disease test](#) (6)
- [herpes test](#) (6)
- [HIV Testing](#) (5)
- [Homocysteine](#) (1)
- [lab tests](#) (19)
- [std testing](#) (18)
- [strokes](#) (3)
- [testing for diabetes](#) (6)
- [thyroid screenings](#) (6)
- [thyroid test](#) (7)
- [Uncategorized](#) (4)
- [Vitamin d](#) (4)
- [Women's Health](#) (5)

## Screening for hereditary hemochromatosis is easy.

There is good news, though—[testing for hereditary hemochromatosis](#) is painless and simple. A fairly inexpensive, quick cheek swab test kit you can use at home that will show if you have the mutated HFE gene that results in hereditary hemochromatosis is available from HealthCheckUSA. You shouldn't take iron supplements until you know your test's results. If your test's results do show that you have hereditary hemochromatosis, treatment comes in the form of routine blood removal, usually several times a year.

Tags: [genetic disease](#), [health check usa](#), [health screening](#), [health screenings](#), [health tests](#), [hemachromatosis](#), [hemachromatosis help](#), [hemachromatosis information](#), [hemachromatosis screening](#), [hemachromatosis test](#), [hemachromatosis treatment](#), [Hemochromatosis](#), [hereditary diseases](#), [hereditary Hemochromatosis](#), [lab test](#), [laboratory test](#)

This entry was posted on Tuesday, February 26th, 2008 at 4:49 pm and is filed under [health tests](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

## Leave a Reply

You must be [logged in](#) to post a comment.

