

**REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
PURCHASE OF SERVICE POLICY #3411
Date Approved: 12/03**

GENETIC TESTING AND COUNSELING

PHILOSOPHY

The Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) strongly supports genetic testing and counseling for any potential parent residing in its service area who may be at high risk of having a child with a developmental disability or for consumers with developmental disabilities in which a genetic cause is suspected or diagnosed.

SERVICE DEFINITION

Genetic testing through an approved laboratory and counseling provided by a qualified physician may be furnished by RCEB to a consumer with a developmental disability in which a genetic cause is suspected or diagnosed or any other individual residing in the service area and are at risk of parenting a child with a developmental disability.

BOARD POLICY

The arrangement for and provision, at RCEB's expense when necessary, of genetic testing and counseling has been approved by the Board for purchase of service purposes. While the Board expects that all possible generic resources will be examined, if no other funding source is available, the expense of the requisite testing and counseling will be borne by RCEB.

Services will be provided to individuals with developmental disabilities and those:

- With a family history of a genetic disorder associated with developmental disabilities.
- With congenital anomalies or chromosomal abnormalities.
- Who have, or an immediate family has, history of unexplained, repeated miscarriages.
- Who has been exposed, prenatally, to teratogenic substances.

The service package provided to each individual agreeing to its usage will be one-time only.

PROCEDURES

After a recommendation is made for genetic testing and counseling by the individual's personal care physician, the individual can request the service by telephoning the Regional Center. Requests are forwarded to the Administrative Secretary for Clinical Services who completes all RCEB required documentation and submits the information to the Director of Children's Services for review and approval. Once authorization is obtained from the Director of Children's Services, the Administrative Secretary informs the applicant and diagnostic center of the approval to proceed with genetic testing and counseling.

AUTHORITY

Welfare and Institutions Code 4512(b).