



UNLOCK GENETICS

Genetic testing and counselling

The person with inherited sight loss who you are supporting may wish to consider genetic testing and genetic counselling.

Our unique resource, **Unlock Genetics**, provides clear, trustworthy and balanced information to enable professionals and families to understand options and discuss and make informed choices.

It also provides information for professionals on how to make appropriate referrals for genetic counselling and testing.

Potential benefits of a genetic test result:

- Confirmation of a specific diagnosis, which may clarify prognosis for vision loss and reveal potential for non-ophthalmic symptoms requiring specialist management.
- Confirmation of inheritance pattern; choices for the patient and their family around family planning and further testing.
- Access to gene-specific clinical trials and treatments; a number of gene replacement and other molecular therapies are currently in trial, including UK centres. In 2020, the first gene therapy for inherited retinal disease was made available on the NHS.

**WE ARE HERE
FOR YOU**

- Call: 01280 821334
- Email info@RetinaUK.org.uk
- Visit RetinaUK.org.uk

Unlock Genetics includes an interview with a Consultant Genetic Counsellor, who explains what people can expect and individuals sharing their experiences of genetic testing and genetic counselling.

“Ophthalmology is one of the biggest areas in rare disease genomics, expanding all the time and can seem quite complex. Retina UK’s Unlock Genetics helps individuals towards making choices that are right for them and their families at whatever point they are in life; as well as being a good source of information for professionals.”

Research Nurse / Clinical Nurse Specialist

“Knowing our genetic diagnosis is a gift; we are now in the best position to make choices and take up any treatment opportunities that arise.”

Retina UK community member

Visit Unlock Genetics at **RetinaUK.org.uk/genetics**

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