Chromosomal Micoarray

What Does It Do?

This test is used to find out if your child has a medical condition caused by missing or extra pieces of chromosome material.

What Can This Test Tell Me?

This test can find out if a person has missing or extra pieces of chromosome material. Missing material is called a “deletion,” and extra material is called a “duplication.”

What Is Chromosome Material?

The human body is made up of billions of building blocks called cells. Inside each cell are thousands of genes, made of DNA, that tell the body how to grow and develop. These genes are arranged one after another on structures called chromosomes.

We get our chromosomes from each of our parents and pass them on to our children. Sometimes there are new changes in a chromosome that were not inherited, or passed down, from a parent.

When the mother and father are not related to each other by blood, their chromosomes are usually different from each other. If the mother and father are blood relatives, many parts of the chromosomes are the same.

Types of Results

Normal/Negative

No missing or extra pieces of chromosome material were found. This does not rule out all genetic conditions.

Uncertain Variant

A missing or extra piece of chromosome material was found, but it is unclear if it is causing your child’s symptoms.

Positive

A missing or extra piece of chromosome material was found that likely explains your child’s symptoms.

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Regions of Homozygosity

One or more chromosomes were found to be genetically identical. This usually means that the mother and father share a common blood relative.

Do All Deletions And Duplications Cause Problems?

No. Some missing or extra pieces of chromosome material do not cause any problems.

How Is The Test Done?

A chromosomal microarray is typically performed on a blood sample. Once the sample is sent to the lab, the DNA is taken out and used for testing.

How Long Will It Take To Get Results?

It can take up to 3-4 weeks for the test to be completed. Once the results are back, they will be discussed at your child's next appointment.

Parental Testing

In some cases, testing the parents' chromosome material may be needed to help understand the chromosome changes in your child. This testing may or may not be covered by your insurance.