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**Overview**

This standard is about identifying individuals with, or at risk of, a condition with a significant genetic basis, such as a single gene or chromosomal condition. This requires a firm underpinning knowledge of genetics and the symptoms and clinical signs of genetic conditions within your area of practice. This is in order to meet the healthcare needs of the individual including surveillance for potential complications and to make the offer of genetic information where appropriate. This is a standard which may be generally applicable to healthcare staff in a wide variety of roles. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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**Performance  
criteria**

- You must be able to:
- P1 identify individuals with, or at risk of, a genetic condition using combinations of:
    - P1.1 a known diagnosis of a genetic condition either in the individual or a family member
    - P1.2 similar signs and symptoms in several members of a family
    - P1.3 knowledge of the genetic component of clinical conditions
    - P1.4 current screening programmes
  - P2 use effective communication skills and strategies to ask relevant questions of the individual to confirm your initial risk assessment and to inform your next actions
  - P3 act within the limits of your role, responsibility, knowledge and genetic experience

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**Knowledge and  
understanding****You need to know  
and understand:**

- K1 the genetic components of specific conditions in your clinical area of practice
- K2 symptoms and clinical signs of genetic conditions within your area of practice
- K3 patterns of affected people associated with modes of inheritance of the genetic conditions in your area of practice
- K4 current UK genetic screening programmes
- K5 where to obtain further information and support for individuals affected by, or at risk of, a genetic condition
- K6 limitations of your own knowledge and skills in relation to the application of genetics in your area of practice
- K7 how to elicit information, taking into account the level of understanding, background, culture and preferred ways of communicating of the person from whom you are collecting information

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**Additional information**

**External Links**

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB2 Assessment and care planning to meet people's health and wellbeing needs

<b>Developed by</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating organisation</b>	Skills for Health
<b>Original URN</b>	SFHGTC2
<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Health Professionals
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