

Advanced genetic testing now available in SA

ALTHOUGH many of the genetic traits we inherit are relatively benign (like dad's height or mom's nose), some can be life-altering, if not life-threatening.

Carrier screening is an advanced genetic test that determines whether a person carries a genetic mutation associated with a disease.

Not only is this important for making decisions on pregnancy, but it also promotes awareness of potential health concerns that may impact the quality of life of parents and their children. As every politician and celebrity knows to say when ambushed by a camera, "the children are the future". It's trite, yes, but true in the most

fundamentally existential of ways. For hundreds of thousands of South Africans, children force us to promise that we can do better.

Turning to genetic reproductive specialists for genetic screening in SA now presents a unique opportunity to do exactly that. Couples looking to start a family now have access to affordable genetic screening with incredible turnaround times. This stands to revolutionise the reproductive health landscape in SA as we strive to limit the transfer of avoidable genetic diseases to our children.

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