

# A Practical Guide to Cardiovascular Genetic Testing and Selection in Clinical Care



**Without genetic insight, high-risk cardiovascular patients may be overlooked.**

A major study found that although **1.7%** of patients carried a monogenic cardiovascular condition, **65%** were completely undiagnosed, underscoring the critical role of genetic testing in identifying hidden risk.<sup>1</sup> By identifying the molecular etiology of disease, genetic testing can improve diagnostic accuracy and refine family management.<sup>2</sup>

## The case for cardiovascular genetic testing in your practice:

- **Diagnostic clarification:** Clarify or confirm the underlying patient diagnosis<sup>2</sup>
- **Informed decision-making:** Guide personalized, evidence-based management recommendations
- **Risk stratification and management:** Reduce the risk of genotype-specific cardiac events
- **Early detection:** Enable proactive screening and prevention for at-risk relatives<sup>2</sup>
- **Align to guidelines:** Ensure your practice standards and protocols are keeping current with guideline-recommended genetic testing



**Despite guideline recommendations, genetic testing is underutilized.<sup>3</sup>**

# Apply guideline-recommended genetic testing with confidence

Genetic testing is supported across major cardiology and genetics societies for key inherited cardiovascular conditions. Societies like the American Heart Association (AHA), American College of Cardiology (ACC), the Heart Rhythm Society (HRS), the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), and the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA) provide guidance to help you determine when genetic testing is appropriate.

Condition	AHA/ACC <sup>4,5</sup>	HRS/EHRA <sup>6-8</sup>	HFSA <sup>9</sup>	Consensus
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM)	●	●	●	● <sup>10</sup>
Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM)	●	●	●	● <sup>11</sup>
Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC/ACM)	●	●	●	
Long QT syndrome (LQTS)/Brugada syndrome (BrS)	●	●		● <sup>12</sup>
Catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (CPVT)	●	●		
Familial thoracic aortic aneurysm and dissection (TAAD)	●			● <sup>13</sup>
Familial hypercholesterolemia (FH)	●			● <sup>14</sup>
Sudden unexplained death	●	●		
Amyloidosis	●			● <sup>15</sup>

## Key indicators for cardiovascular genetic testing:

Patients with a personal or family history of any of these clinical features should be considered for genetic testing. The best candidate for genetic testing is typically those family members affected with the cardiovascular condition. However, unaffected or asymptomatic people may be tested when an affected relative is unavailable. Consider genetic testing when there is a/an:

- Clinical diagnosis of ARVC/ACM, DCM, HCM, LQTS, BrS, CPVT, TAAD, FH
- Unexplained arrhythmia
- Sudden cardiac arrest or death (SCA, SCD)
- Recurrent fainting spells
- Early-onset heart disease (<55 yo in men, and <65 yo in women)
- Heart failure or heart transplant
- Presence of a pacemaker or implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD), especially at a young age
- Suspicion of syndromic cardiovascular condition (e.g., Noonan syndrome, Marfan syndrome)
- Multiple affected family members across generations



## Select the right cardiovascular genetic test

Choose from an extensive menu of cardiovascular genetic testing options designed to clarify inherited risk and guide clinical action. Targeted panels (4–50 gene panels) focus on specific cardiovascular conditions such as cardiomyopathy, arrhythmia, aortopathy, and lipid disorders. Or, select a comprehensive panel such as CardioNext<sup>®</sup> (92 genes) which includes genes associated with both cardiomyopathies and arrhythmias .



### Aortic or Vascular testing includes:

#### Targeted Panels

TAADNext<sup>®</sup> (35 genes)  
HHTNext<sup>®</sup> (6 genes)



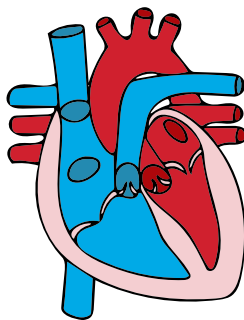
### Arrhythmia testing includes:

#### Targeted Panels

CPVTNext<sup>®</sup> (4 genes)  
LongQTNext<sup>™</sup> (17 genes)

#### Multi-condition Panels

RhythmNext<sup>®</sup> (42 genes)  
CardioNext<sup>®</sup> (92 genes)



### Lipid disorder testing includes:

#### Targeted Panels

FHNNext<sup>®</sup> (4 genes)  
FCSNext<sup>®</sup> (5 genes)  
Sitosterolemia (2 genes)



### Cardiomyopathy testing includes:

#### Targeted Panels

HCMNext<sup>®</sup> (30 genes)  
DCMNext<sup>®</sup> (37 genes)  
ARVCNext<sup>™</sup> (11 genes)

#### Multi-condition Panels

CMNext<sup>®</sup> (56 genes)  
CardioNext<sup>®</sup> (92 genes)



### Postmortem testing includes:

#### Testing options

Select appropriate panel based on autopsy findings



### Other conditions testing includes:

#### Targeted Panels

NoonanNext<sup>™</sup> (18 genes)



# What to know before ordering



## Expertise that matters

We maintain the highest commitment to quality genetic testing. Our clinical team uses advanced research tools, collaborates with partner labs, and identifies updates that may impact variant classifications. We also have 100+ genetic counselors and other medical experts who can support result interpretation, discuss complex cases, and ensure you receive clear, accurate guidance.



## Flexible sample options

We accept blood, buccal swab, saliva, and other sample types to make it easier for you to collect the right specimen in any clinical setting. This flexibility helps reduce barriers to testing and supports faster, more convenient ordering.



## Coverage, pricing, and patient support

Many commercial and Medicaid plans now recognize cardiogenetic testing, and Ambry can help streamline insurance verification and prior authorization. When needed, patients can access transparent self-pay pricing and financial assistance. Ask your Ambry representative for billing resources or contact our billing support team at +1 949-900-5500.



## Access to third-party genetic counseling services

We recognize that not all organizations have access to a local genetics expert. We provide access to third-party genetic counselors who can support your practice and your patients.

For support selecting the right panel for your patient, connect with your Ambry Genetics account executive, visit [www.ambrygen.com/cardio](http://www.ambrygen.com/cardio) or reach us at +1 949-900-5500.

### References

1. Abdulrahim JW, Kwee LC, Alenezi F, et al. Identification of undetected monogenic cardiovascular disorders. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2020;76(7):797-808. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2020.06.037
2. Cirino AL, Harris S, Lakdawala NK, et al. Role of genetic testing in inherited cardiovascular disease: A review. *JAMA Cardiol*. 2017;2(10):1153-1160. doi:10.1001/jamacardio.2017.2352
3. Longoni M, Bhasin K, Ward A, et al. Real-world utilization of guideline-directed genetic testing in inherited cardiovascular diseases. *Front Cardiovasc Med*. 2023;10:1272433. Published 2023 Oct 17. doi:10.3389/fcvm.2023.1272433.
4. Landstrom AP, Ferguson JF, James CA, et al. Genetic and Genomic Testing in Cardiovascular Disease: A Policy Statement From the American Heart Association. *Circulation*. 2025;152(24):e474-e489. doi:10.1161/CIR.0000000000001385
5. Writing Committee, Kittleson MM, Ambardekar AV, et al. Transthyretin Cardiac Amyloidosis Evaluation and Management: 2025 ACC Concise Clinical Guidance. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2026;87(5):549-565. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2025.09.004
6. Wilde AAM, Semsarian C, Márquez MF, et al. European Heart Rhythm Association/Heart Rhythm Society/Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society/Latin American Heart Rhythm Society expert consensus statement on the state of genetic testing for cardiac diseases. *Europace*. 2022;24(8):1307-1367. doi:10.1093/europace/euac030
7. Towbin JA, McKenna WJ, Abrams DJ, et al. 2019 HRS expert consensus statement on evaluation, risk stratification, and management of arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy. *Heart Rhythm*. 2019;16(11):e301-e372. doi:10.1016/j.hrthm.2019.05.007
8. Stiles MK, Wilde AAM, Abrams DJ, et al. 2020 APHRS/HRS expert consensus statement on the investigation of decedents with sudden unexplained death and patients with sudden cardiac arrest, and of their families. *Heart Rhythm*. 2021;18(1):e1-e50. doi:10.1016/j.hrthm.2020.10.010
9. Hershberger RE, Givertz MM, Ho CY, et al. Genetic evaluation of cardiomyopathy—a Heart Failure Society of America practice guideline. *J Card Fail*. 2018;24(5):281-302. doi:10.1016/j.cardfail.2018.03.004
10. Cirino AL, Ho C. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy overview. In: Adam MP, Ardinger HH, Pagon RA, et al, eds. GeneReviews®. University of Washington, Seattle; 2008. Updated June 6, 2019.
11. Hershberger RE, Morales A. Dilated cardiomyopathy overview. In: Adam MP, Ardinger HH, Pagon RA, et al, eds. GeneReviews®. University of Washington, Seattle; 2007. Updated August 23, 2018.
12. McNally E, MacLeod H, Dellefave-Castillo L. Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy. In: Adam MP, Ardinger HH, Pagon RA, et al, eds. GeneReviews®. University of Washington, Seattle; 2005. Updated May 25, 2017.
13. Verhagen JMA, Kempers MJE, Cozijnsen L, et al. Expert consensus recommendations on the cardiogenetic care for patients with thoracic aortic disease and their first-degree relatives. *Int J Cardiol*. 2018;258:243-248. doi:10.1016/j.ijcard.2018.01.085
14. Sturm AC, Knowles JW, Gidding SS, et al. Clinical genetic testing for familial hypercholesterolemia: JACC scientific expert panel. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2018;72(6):662-680. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2018.05.044
15. Merino-Merino AM, Labrador-Gomez J, Sanchez-Corral E, Delgado-Lopez PD, Perez-Rivera JA. Utility of genetic testing in patients with transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy: A brief review. *Biomedicines*. 2023;12(1):25. Published 2023 Dec 21. doi:10.3390/biomedicines12010025