

*primary studies - published RCT*

## Teaching about cystic fibrosis carrier screening by using written and video information.

**Code:** PM7611285

**Year:** 1995 **Date:** 1995

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### Study design (if review, criteria of inclusion for studies)

RCT

### Participants

Subjects in group I (n = 238) were (1) individuals in steady relationships and their partners, (2) > or = 18 years old, and (3) not pregnant. . Subjects in group II (n = 108) were parents seeking well child care in a university clinic.

### Interventions

Participants were randomized to receive written or video materials. All received a brief questionnaire. Those who accepted free screening and were not demonstrable carriers were sent a letter explaining their results and another questionnaire

### Outcome measures

The main outcome measures were ability to answer questions correctly about (1) health status of CF carriers and people with CF, (2) the possibility of false-negative results, and (3) for those who had screening, the implications of their own results.

### Main results

Written and video materials were equally effective in conveying information. Prior to screening, subjects answered an average of 86% of questions correctly. Subjects with less formal education answered fewer questions correctly; 60% of those with less than a high school education had adequate knowledge of the health consequences of having CF or being a carrier, compared with > or = 94% of college graduates. Performance improved after screening. Where neither partner was a demonstrable carrier, 88% knew their own and their partner's test results, and 90% indicated that their risk of having a child with CF was not zero.

### Authors' conclusions

Written and video educational materials can be used without face-to-face counseling to inform most people about carrier screening and their test results. These materials may be less effective for those with lower educational backgrounds.

<http://www.mrw.interscience.wiley.com/cochrane/clcentral/articles/107/CN-00116107/frame.html>

### See also

Am J Hum Genet. 1995 Jul;57(1):171-81.

### Keywords

Adult; Genetic Testing; Heterozygote Detection; information; non pharmacological intervention - diagn; non pharmacological intervention - psycho-soc-edu-org; pharmacological\_intervention; Prenatal Diagnosis; screening; training; carrier status; Genetic Predisposition to Disease; diagnostic procedures; Psychoeducation; non pharmacological intervention - genetic& reprod;