

# Do **YOU** know Tracy and David?

As soon-to-be new parents, Tracy and David have a lot of questions. Do they have the right books? The right gadgets? The right name? But thanks to their primary care provider, they don't have questions about their baby's health.

When Tracy and David decided to try to conceive, Tracy visited a new health care provider who took a thorough family history at the first preconception visit. That history revealed that both she and David were of French-Canadian ancestry, putting them at elevated risk of having a baby with **Tay-Sachs disease**, a lethal inherited disorder affecting the nervous system.

The provider explained the risk to Tracy and David, who chose to undergo genetic counseling and carrier testing. Having learned that they were both carriers of gene alterations that could cause Tay-Sachs, Tracy and David chose to have prenatal genetic testing to determine if their baby would be affected. What a joy to find out that the baby had not inherited Tay-Sachs!



**The next time you meet “Tracy and David,” take the time to consider and discuss the possible implications of their family history.**

**To learn more about how genetics is relevant to your practice visit [www.genome.gov](http://www.genome.gov)**

