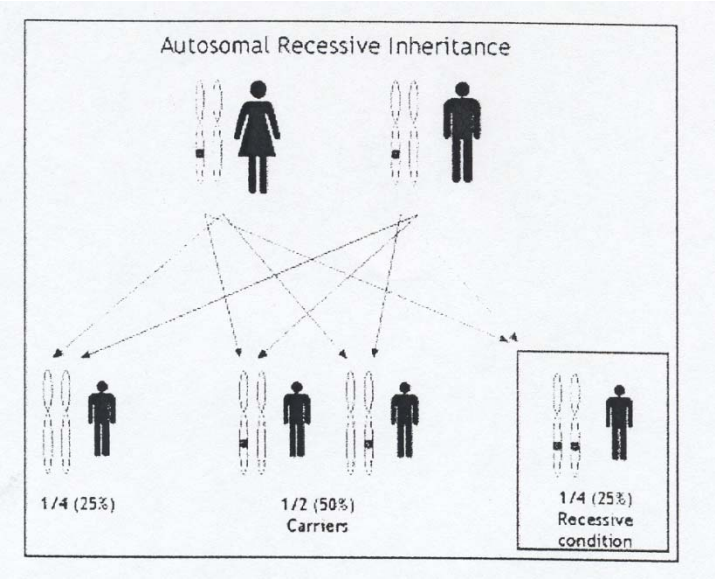

Each parent of a person with cystic fibrosis (CF) carries one abnormal CF gene and one normal CF gene, but shows no evidence of the disease. The reason is because the normal CF gene dominates, or "recesses" the abnormal CF gene. To have CF, a child must inherit two abnormal genes – one from each parent. The recessive CF gene can occur in both boys and girls because it is located on non-sexed-linked chromosomes called autosomal chromosomes. Therefore, CF is called an autosomal recessive genetic disease.

Your healthcare provider may perform a genetic analysis of a blood sample to confirm a diagnosis of CF. This gene test can detect CF in about 90% of people who have the disease. Because CF is an inherited disease, your healthcare provider may advise that your siblings be tested to see if they have CF, even if they are not showing any symptoms of the disease. Family members may be screened with a sweat test. First cousins may also want to be evaluated by using the sweat test.

Patient Preparation
No fasting or other preparation is required.

During the Test
A blood sample is drawn.

After the Test
Discuss the results of the test with your healthcare provider.