What is Pharmacogenomics?

Pharmacogenomics is the study of how your genes affect the way your body responds to medications.

Understanding Your Genes

Each person has thousands of genes that were passed down from their parents.

Genes are segments of DNA that contain information, which acts like instructions for the body on how to grow, develop, and function. They influence traits like height, blood type, hair colour, and eye colour.

How Your Genes Affect Medication

Genes provide instructions for how your body processes medications. Since each person's DNA is unique, **the same medication may work differently for different people.**

Some genes can slow down or speed up the processing of medications.

If a medication is **broken down too slowly**, it stays in the body longer and may **cause side effects**.

If a medication is **broken down too quickly**, it may **not work well** or **wear off too fast**.

PGx-SUPPORT

Pharmacogenomics-Supported Psychotropic Prescribing Trial

Questions?

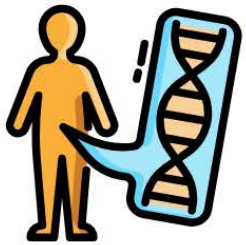
Email: pharmpgxlab@umanitoba.ca

UM | Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

This study has been approved by the Health Research Ethics Board [RITHIM/CHIPER]: HS26637 (H2024:279).

What is Pharmacogenomic Testing?

Pharmacogenomic testing looks at specific genes and differences within those genes to help predict your body's response to medications.



Knowing more about your genes may help your doctor:

- Select medications that work best for you
- Identify the right dose for your body
- Minimize the risk of potential serious side effects

STUDY

We are providing pharmacogenomic testing for **adults aged 18 years or older**

You must be starting or changing a medication for your mental health

You will be compensated for your time participating in the study.

A physician referral is required

How Does the Testing Work?

1. Your doctor must request this test by sending a **referral to pharmpgxlab@umanitoba.ca**
2. You will receive a survey link to provide consent and complete questionnaires.
3. A saliva collection kit will be provided to you at the healthcare centre or mailed to you to complete at home with a pre-paid return envelope.
4. Test results will be sent to you and your referring doctor at no cost to you.
5. You will be asked to complete questionnaires 3 months after the test.

Ask your doctor if this study is right for you!

The referring doctor will be asked to complete two online surveys, one after the referral and one two weeks post-discharge or after three months of the test.