VON WILLEBRANDS GENETICS

50%

Chance of having a child with von Willebrand Disease.

Von Willebrand disease (vWD) is an inherited bleeding disorder whereby the protein in the blood, called Von Willebrand factor (vWF), which helps blood to clot is low or doesn't work well. Inherited means that the disorder is passed from parent to child through genes. vWD affects both males and females equally.

The three major types of vWD are called Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3.

You can inherit Type 1 or Type 2 vWD if only one of your parents passes a defective von Willebrand Factor gene to you.

You inherit Type 3 vWD if both of your parents pass a defective vWF gene on to you. As a result, your symptoms may be different from your parent's symptoms.

A person can have a defective vWF gene without symptoms of vWD. However, he or she can still pass the defective vWF genes on to their children.

Some people get vWD later in life as a result of other medical conditions. This type of vWD is called acquired von Willebrand syndrome.

50%

Chance of having a child with von Willebrand Disease.

The Irish Haemophilia Society

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