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Futura Genetics

<https://youtu.be/4VZaJUiZOG0>

- Very similar to 23andMe → the company offers a DNA test that helps users discover their likelihood of developing 28 common health conditions
- Founders: Auro Pontes and Efi Binder
- Company was founded in Vancouver, Canada in 2014
- Futura Genetics is based in Israel
- Futura Genetics is a sister company of Vancouver-based Futura Biology Inc.
- The company has 15 years of experience in the field of DNA testing
- Labs are certified by the highest standards including CLIA
- The use a patent-protected non-toxic sample collection kit from Genotek (<https://www.dnagenotek.com/ROW/index.html>)
- Cost: \$375+tax
- Worldwide shipping available
- Steps:
 - 1) Order a DNA collection kit online and have it sent to your home via free express shipping
 - 2) Spit and Send your sample. Log into your online account and request for the company to come and pick it up for you.
 - 3) In 4 weeks, receive a notification that your report is available online
- Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/futuragenetics?lang=en>

DNA Analysis Process

- Saliva samples go through the process of DNA isolation, DNA amplification, and DNA detection
- DNA amplification – since the amount of DNA in the sample is very low, the sample is amplified with a chemical reaction called PCR (polymerase chain reaction) where each DNA molecule is copied many times
- Only select regions of DNA that may potentially contain SNPs linked to certain disease are amplified
- DNA pieces are then separated into smaller pieces and these are transferred a chip on which short single-stranded DNA molecules called primers are chemically attached
- A reaction mixture (contains nucleotides for DNA synthesis and 4 DNA terminator nucleotides labelled with fluorescent dyes) is then used
- At the end of the reaction, an array of DNA fragments of different sizes, each labeled with a unique color depending on the terminator nucleotide is created
- SNP detection – this chip with the DNA arrays are placed into a machine called Quattrolmager which has 4 lasers and a highly sensitive specialized camera
- The fluorescent color patterns are recorded and then analyzed by the Genorama Genotyping Software → this converts the image information into DNA sequence data

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- This DNA sequence data is then studied by DNA experts and bioinformaticians to determine the presence of SNPs in the DNA regions related to disease
- Using latest advances in the field of bioinformatics, DNA experts calculate the risk of acquiring certain disease and prepare detailed reports to the users

Privacy and Security

- Data is safely secured using the latest security measures
- A barcode system is used to separate personal information from DNA data

List of conditions they check for:

- Age related macular degeneration
- Alopecia
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Atrial Fibrillation
- Basal Cell Carcinoma
- Bladder Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Celiac Disease
- Colorectal Cancer
- Coronary Heart Disease
- Exfoliating Glaucoma
- Gastric Cancer
- Grave's Disease
- Intracranial Aneurysm
- Lung Cancer
- Lupus
- Melanoma
- Migraine
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Obesity
- Open Angle Glaucoma
- Peripheral Vascular Disease
- Prostate Cancer
- Psoriasis
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Type 1 Diabetes
- Type 2 Diabetes
- Venous Thromboembolism

Sample report: https://www.futuragenetics.com/media/cms_page_media/1/futura-genetics-report-en.pdf/

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Terms and Conditions and Privacy

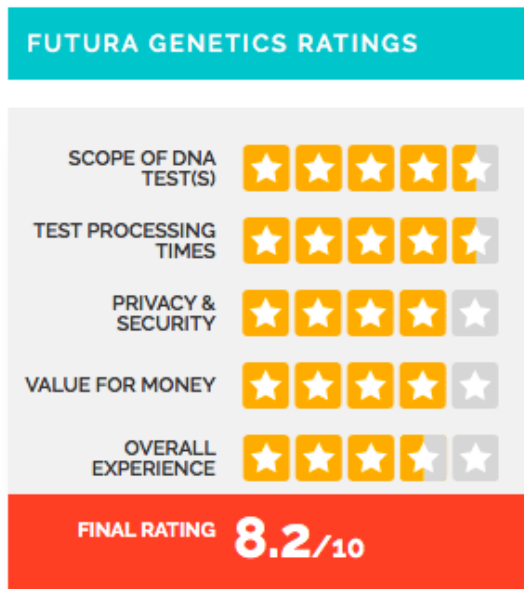
- The company states that personal information is secure and used only for the purpose of placing an order, arranging for delivery, and providing DNA reports
- They also state they are not responsible if information that is provided by their site or service is not accurate, complete, or current
- They also state that they do not guarantee that information provided by their service is secure, accurate, or reliable
- When ordering online, they retrieve users IP address to provide them with information that they learn about their browser and operating system
- The company states that they have third-party service providers who work for them (although they do not specifically say who) and that information will be shared with them to help provide the necessary service to Futura
- DNA sample:
 - Your DNA sample will not be used for any other genetic testing besides those ordered by you. After your test has been completed and verified, your DNA sample will be stripped of all personal identifiers and may be used as controls in future assays. DNA not used for controls will be destroyed.
- Genetic Information:
 - Your genetic information will not be directly associated with your personal information, but will be stored in our secure database, maintained to facilitate client's requests for replacing lost reports. This information is kept strictly confidential and will not be released to third parties without your permission, unless required by law.

Reviews of the Service

Customer rating of their service based on this website:

<https://www.top10dnatests.com/reviews/futura-genetics-review/>

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<https://dnatestingchoice.com/en-us/health-testing/provider/futura-genetics/3731>

- The report provides risks for each condition as an overall percentage and a relative risk compared to the average
- They also provide recommendations for environmental factors that could affect one's risks for developing each disease
- They also tell you which areas they looked at in the genes for each disease
- Process of ordering the kit and collecting the saliva is straightforward
- The online report includes an introduction explaining how to understand the report
- The report also includes an "About the Diseases" section that provides descriptions of the individual diseases listed and their symptoms