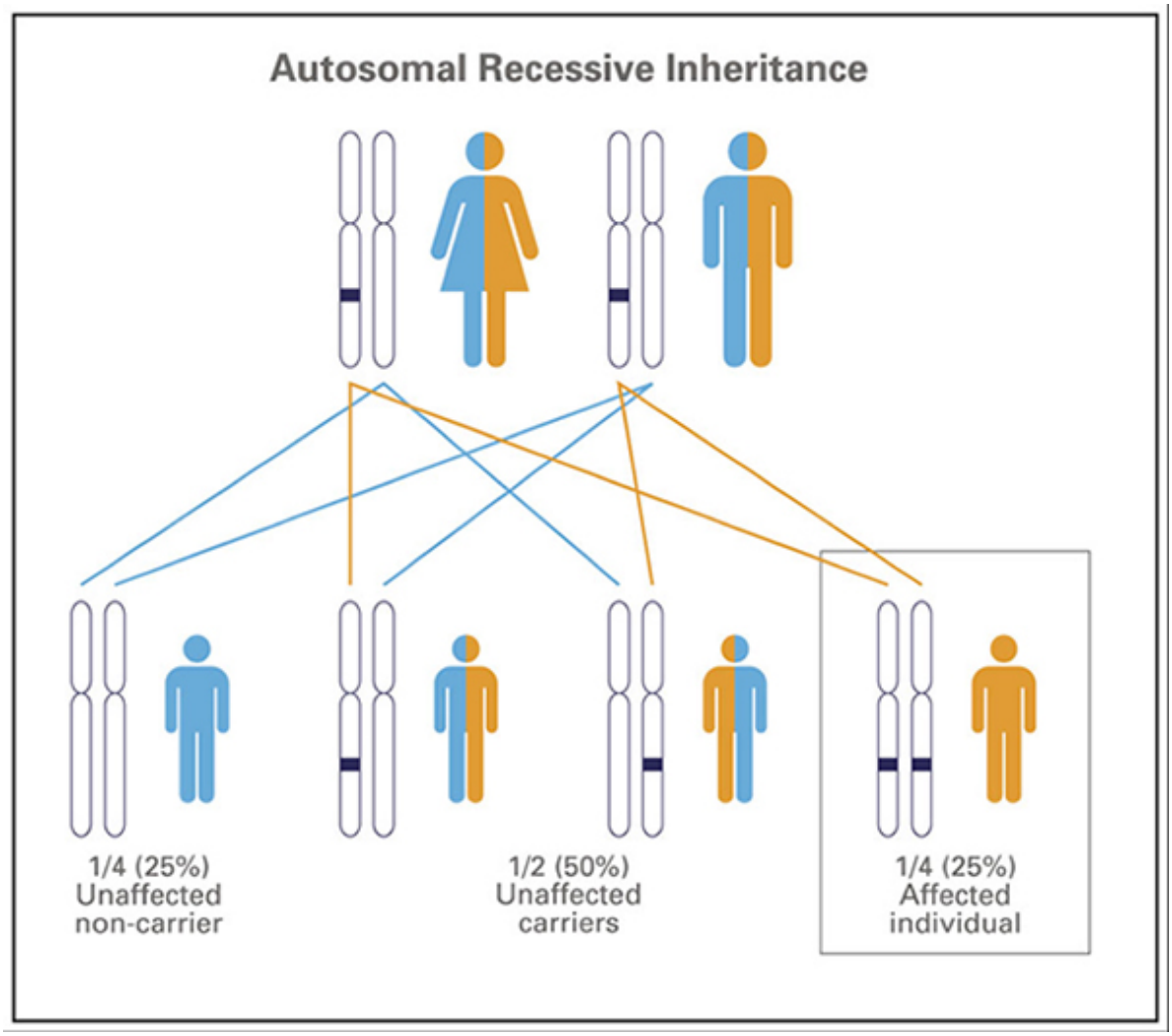
How to Avoid Conceiving a Baby with Cystic Fibrosis

Cystic Fibrosis is a recessive genetic disease that affects a child mostly because he or she inherited two abnormal copies of the gene, one from the father and one from the mother. If both the mother and father are carriers, there are 1 in 4 chances for the baby to be affected. The odds of carrying a mutation are variable and are approximately 1 in 29 in Caucasian populations.



Autosomal Recessive Inheritance

Prior to conceiving a baby, one of the partners can be tested for common cystic fibrosis mutation, using a simple blood

test. If one partner is a carrier the other partner is tested. One partner does not carry CF gene mutation: no need to test the other partner and the risk of CF transmission to the baby is very low.

Both partners carry CF gene mutation: the risk of CF transmission to the baby is 25%. In this case the couple can consider IVF with preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) for the specific mutation. Embryos that do not carry the mutation are transferred to the uterus, avoiding the disease.

Consulting with a reproductive endocrinologist can identify the risk and prevent the transmission of cystic fibrosis to your baby.It is a recessive genetic disease that affects a child mostly because he or she inherited two abnormal copies of the gene, one from the father and one from the mother. If both the mother and father are carriers, there are 1 in 4 chances for the baby to be affected. The odds of carrying a mutation are variable and are approximately 1 in 29 in Caucasian populations.