

## Medical Family Tree Assignment

Be prepared to discuss your medical family tree with the class. The presentation should last no more than 3-5 minutes. It should include 3 generations. You are not required to discuss anything that would make you feel uncomfortable or that is too personal to share. This presentation must be presented on a poster board as a visual. BE CREATIVE!!!!

What a medical family tree can tell you:

Creating a medical family tree can help you and your doctor spot patterns of specific conditions and diseases among family members. Your doctor and other health care professionals can use your medical family tree sometimes called a pedigree for a number of things including:

- Diagnosing a medical condition
- Deciding what medical tests to run
- Identifying other members of your family who are at risk of developing certain diseases
- Calculating your risk of certain diseases
- Calculating your risk of passing certain conditions on to your children

Your question might include:

1. Can you provide significant dates, such as birth dates and approximate dates when diseases were diagnosed?
2. What major diseases or health conditions has the family experienced? Examples: heart disease, stroke, cancer, obesity, blindness and deafness. At what age were these diseases or conditions diagnosed? Was treatment successful?
3. Are you aware of birth defects, learning disabilities or mental retardation in the family health history?
4. Have infertility, miscarriages, stillbirths or infant deaths taken place in the family? If so, were the reasons for these events discovered?

Gather as much accurate information as you can. Gather information on as many generations of relatives you can, including your parents, yourself, grandparents, sisters, brothers, half brothers/sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, children and grandchildren.

For a guide to assist you refer to LAB A1-2 Creating a Family Health Tree!!!!

**\*\*\*\*\*MUST BE ON POSTER BOARD\*\*\*\*\***

(creativity will be awarded)