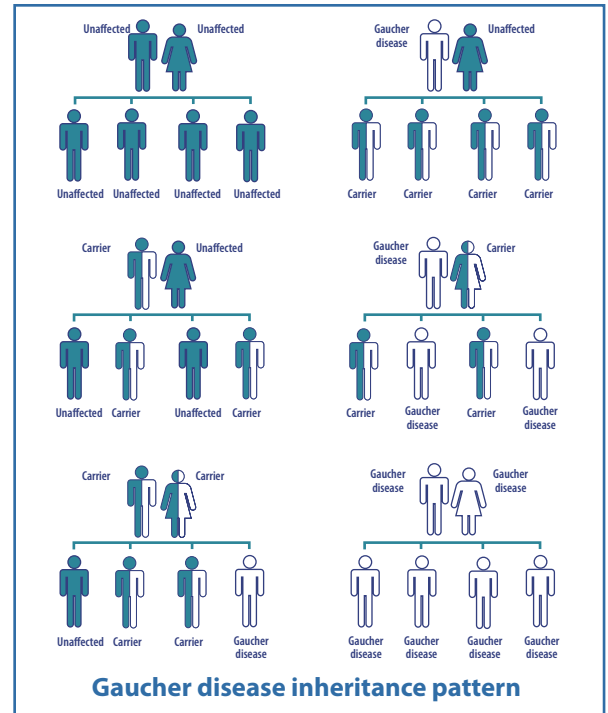


## Gaucher disease facts & figures

- Gaucher disease is a progressive, debilitating and sometimes life-threatening disease. Symptoms of Gaucher disease can appear at any age – there are reports of patients first developing symptoms beyond age 90.
- The symptoms of Gaucher can include easy bleeding and bruising, fatigue, anemia, weak bones, bone and joint pain, and enlargement of the spleen or liver.

→ Gaucher is a genetic disorder that affects fewer than 10,000 people worldwide. Both men and women can develop Gaucher disease.

→ Gaucher disease is passed from parent to child; both parents must be carriers for the disease to present in a child. The carrier rate for Gaucher disease is about 1 in 100 for the general population, but may be as high as 1 in 10 for Jewish people of Ashkenazi descent (primarily from Eastern European ancestry).



- Gaucher disease is a *lysosomal storage disorder*, the term for a family of nearly 40 different genetic diseases that involve a deficiency in one or more enzymes responsible for the breakdown of molecules in the body. People with Gaucher disease experience symptoms caused by the accumulation of a lipid called glucocerebroside in a compartment of the cell known as the lysosome.
- There is a blood test to determine whether someone has Gaucher disease.
- The Internet has made it much easier for families to receive and share information about Gaucher and to get the support they need.
- The National Gaucher Foundation (NGF) is the nation's leading organization focusing specifically on the needs of people living with Gaucher, their families and caregivers. To learn more about the information and support services available from NGF, visit [www.gaucherdisease.org](http://www.gaucherdisease.org).