

Prenatal testing helps find some birth defects before a baby is born. This information may help you decide which tests are right for you.



AMNIOCENTESIS

Tests the fluid around the baby. There's a very small risk of miscarriage (less than 1 in 900) with this procedure.

Results show if the baby has a chromosome condition and can tell the baby's sex. This test finds more chromosome conditions than NIPT (*see below*).

Results take about 2 weeks, but may be ready sooner. Usually, follow-up testing isn't needed.



NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL TESTING (NIPT) also called CELL-FREE DNA TESTING (cfDNA)

Tests a blood sample from your arm.

Results show if the baby has a higher or lower chance for certain chromosome conditions. It can also predict the baby's sex.

Initial NIPT results take about 7 to 10 days.

Final results can take 2 to 3 weeks (or longer) if follow-up is needed (*see below*).

Low-risk result: No follow-up is needed. It's very unlikely the baby will have Down syndrome, trisomy 18, trisomy 13, or a sex chromosome condition. NIPT doesn't screen for other chromosome conditions.

Results that need follow-up: About 1 in 20 NIPT samples need follow-up. If you get one of the results below, you'll be offered genetic counseling and more testing.

- **High-risk result:** There is a high chance for a chromosome condition. Amniocentesis or testing after birth is needed to know if the baby actually has the condition.
- **Redraw request:** The test doesn't give any result. This is more likely to happen with a high body mass index (BMI), a twin pregnancy, or in vitro fertilization (IVF). You can repeat NIPT or do a different test. About 2 out of 3 repeat NIPT tests will give a result.
- **Inconclusive for sex chromosome conditions:** It's very unlikely the baby has Down syndrome, trisomy 18, or trisomy 13, but the result doesn't tell us about the chance of sex chromosome conditions. Counseling and more testing is available if you wish to learn about those conditions.

TO HELP YOU DECIDE

Do you want to know about birth defects during pregnancy?

Results help us decide if extra care is needed during pregnancy and childbirth. Timing of results is important.

If a serious problem is found:

- **BEFORE 24 WEEKS:** You can continue your pregnancy or choose to end the pregnancy.
- **AFTER 24 WEEKS:** Ending a pregnancy after 24 weeks is usually not an option, but there are some exceptions.