PRENATAL TESTING DECISION TREE
(IF YOU ARE >13 WEEKS USE: 2ND TRIMESTER DECISION TREE)

Would knowing that your baby has a birth defect help you feel more prepared when you deliver?
Would you consider ending your pregnancy if certain birth defects were identified?

NO

If you answered NO to *both* questions, you may decide to have NO TESTING

If you answered YES to *either* question, you may want a prenatal test

Do you want to know the chance that your baby could have certain birth defects (like Down syndrome, spina bifida)?

Do you need more information before deciding to have a diagnostic procedure?

Are you willing to have a test that might miss these birth defects?

OR

Do you want to know for certain whether your baby has a chromosome abnormality (such as Down syndrome)?

Are you willing to have a test that includes a small risk for miscarriage?

SCREENING TEST

Do you want blood testing only or blood testing and an early ultrasound?

Serum Integrated Screening

Combines first trimester blood test results with second trimester blood test results

First blood test done between
- **10w0d to 13w6d**

Second blood test done between
- **15w0d to 20w0d**

Screens for Down syndrome, trisomy 18, neural tube defects, abdominal wall defects, and Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrome

Detection of some physical birth defects done by routine ultrasound during the second trimester (usually 17-20 weeks)

No increased risk for miscarriage

Final results available in the second trimester. No first trimester results are available

Women with screen positive results offered amniocentesis, detailed ultrasound

OR

Sequential Integrated Screening

Combines nuchal translucency ultrasound testing with first and second trimester blood test results

First blood test done between
- **10w0d to 13w6d**

Ultrasound done between
- **11w2d to 14w2d**

Second blood test done between
- **15w0d to 20w0d**

Screens for Down syndrome, trisomy 18, neural tube defects, abdominal wall defects, and Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrome

Slightly higher detection rate for Down syndrome and trisomy 18; may provide early detection of some physical birth defects

No increased risk for miscarriage

Final results available in the second trimester. Preliminary results provided for high risk cases in the first trimester

Women with screen positive results offered CVS, amniocentesis, and in some cases, detailed ultrasound

DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURE

Do you want CVS or amniocentesis?

Chorionic villus sampling (CVS)

Done at 10 to 13+ weeks in pregnancy

Less than 1 in 300 risk for miscarriage

Detects >99% of chromosome abnormalities

Testing for neural tube and abdominal wall defects done at 15-20 weeks by a blood test and ultrasound

Follow-up testing needed in about 3-5% of CVS procedures

OR

Amniocentesis

Done at 15 to 20+ weeks in pregnancy

Less than 1 in 300 - 1 in 500 risk for miscarriage

Detects >99% of chromosome abnormalities

Includes testing for neural tube and abdominal wall defects

Follow-up testing rarely needed

KAISER PERMANENTE®