

HOW TO OFFER PRENATAL GENETIC SCREENING



KEY POINTS

- Screening is not diagnostic.
- All testing is optional.
- Screening does not test for “everything”.

NIPT - Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR PATIENT TO CONSIDER

- How important is it for you to know if your baby is at increased chance of having a chromosome difference that could affect your baby’s health and development?
- If your screening result is positive, how likely are you to consider additional testing (NIPT or invasive diagnostic testing)?
- How useful would it be for you to know about a chromosome difference before your baby’s birth in order to prepare?
- What are your thoughts about continuing or ending your pregnancy if your baby has a chromosome difference?
- How would knowing/not knowing affect you emotionally throughout the pregnancy?

COUNSELLING POINTS TO CONSIDER

- All testing in pregnancy is your choice.
- A negative screening result does not guarantee the birth of a baby with no health concerns.
- A positive screening result does not mean the pregnancy has the chromosome difference. It means that the chance is increased above the accepted cut-off.
- If the screening results are positive, additional testing will be offered.
- The decision about screening will not affect your care.
- There is a chance for individuals of any age to have pregnancies with trisomy 21, 18 or 13.



PRENATAL SCREENING
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Looking for more information?
Find additional screening resources and educational materials at:
 www.prenatalscreeningontario.ca