

# HOW TO GET PRENATAL GENETIC SCREENING WHEN YOU HAD A “VANISHING TWIN”

If your pregnancy started as a twin pregnancy and one twin miscarried, you can still choose to have prenatal genetic screening. This testing can tell you the chance for the baby to have trisomy 21 (Down syndrome) or trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome).

You can have a test called nuchal translucency (NT) plus Second Trimester Screening (STS) - or NT + STS. You will first have a NT ultrasound, which measures the fluid-filled pocket at the back of the developing baby's neck in the first trimester of pregnancy. Next, you will have a blood test in the second trimester of pregnancy.

It is important to know that you cannot get enhanced First Trimester Screening (eFTS) or Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT) if you have a “vanishing” twin pregnancy.



## STEP 1 | BOOK NT ULTRASOUND

Your health-care provider will fill out a requisition for your ultrasound. The ultrasound can be booked by you or your provider between 11 weeks 2 days and 13 weeks 3 days of pregnancy. If you are booking the ultrasound yourself, the contact information for the ultrasound facility will be on the requisition given to you by your provider. Note that some ultrasound facilities have multiple locations.



## WHERE CAN I GET THE NT ULTRASOUND DONE?

- Your health-care provider may recommend a hospital or clinic for your NT ultrasound.
- If needed, you can search the [interactive map](#) on our website to find an NT ultrasound facility in your area.



## STEP 2 | GO FOR NT ULTRASOUND

A section of the [Multiple Marker Screening](#) Requisition will be filled out at the ultrasound facility and returned to you. Keep it in a safe place and bring it to your blood test, done later in pregnancy.



## STEP 3 | GET BLOOD TEST

The blood test will be done between 14 weeks and 20 weeks 6 days of pregnancy. You must wait until at least 8 weeks have passed from the miscarriage of the twin. The Multiple Marker Screening requisition should tell you after which date you can go for your blood test. Take the requisition to any blood collection laboratory, such as LifeLabs® or Dynacare®. Visit their websites for the most up-to-date information on available locations and how to plan for your visit.



## STEP 4 | OBTAIN RESULTS

The results from NT + STS will be sent to your health-care provider about 5 business days after your blood test. Make a plan with your provider about how and when the results will be given to you.

### HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Visit our website to read more about screening for “[vanishing twins](#)”. You can speak to one of our Genetic Counsellors if you need more information.



[www.PrenatalScreeningOntario.ca](http://www.PrenatalScreeningOntario.ca)



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