

How to Get Prenatal Genetic Screening When You Have Had a “Vanishing” Twin



Prenatal genetic screening for chromosome differences can tell you the chance of your baby having trisomy 21 (Down syndrome) or trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome). You can have a screening test called nuchal translucency (NT) plus Second Trimester Screening (STS), or NT + STS. This testing involves an ultrasound and a blood test. Other screening options, enhanced First Trimester Screening (eFTS) and Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT), are not possible in your pregnancy.

1 Find ultrasound location

Your health-care provider might suggest a hospital or clinic for your NT ultrasound. If needed, you can find a location using the [interactive map](#) on our website.

2 Book NT ultrasound

You can have the NT ultrasound between 11 weeks + 2 days and 13 weeks + 3 days of pregnancy. Knowing how far along you are in pregnancy is key for timing this ultrasound. The NT ultrasound can be booked by you or your health-care provider by contacting the ultrasound facility. The contact information is on the ultrasound requisition.

3 Go for NT ultrasound

The [Multiple Marker Screening requisition](#) from your health-care provider is finalized at the time of your ultrasound. You need this requisition for the blood test. Keep it in a safe place.

4 Get blood test

The blood test is done between 14 weeks and 20 weeks 6 days of pregnancy but you must wait until at least 8 weeks have passed since the twin miscarried. The Multiple Marker Screening requisition should say when you can go for your blood test. Take the requisition to any community blood collection laboratory, such as LifeLabs® or Dynacare®.

5 Get results

The results are sent to your health-care provider about 5 business days after your blood test. Make a plan with your health-care provider for how the results will be given to you.

