

ULTRA-SCREEN™ GENETIC SCREENING IS
A COMBINATION OF A BLOOD TEST AND
ULTRASOUND MEASUREMENT THAT:

1. Gives you and your doctor information about your unborn baby's health in the first trimester
2. Helps identify babies who may have Down Syndrome, Trisomy 18, or other abnormalities
3. Has the highest detection rate for chromosome abnormalities — higher than **any** second trimester screen.
4. Can be performed as early as 11-14 weeks into your pregnancy



SERVICES

- Ultra-Screen™ - First Trimester Prenatal Screening
- Second Screen™ - Second Trimester Prenatal Screening
- Chromosome Analysis with Rapid Turnaround Time
- DNA Testing
- Dad Test DNA Identification Testing
- Genetic Counseling



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Ultra-Screen™

First Trimester
Prenatal
Screening



THE FIRST TRIMESTER TEST

What is Ultra-Screen™?

Ultra-Screen™ is a test performed in the first trimester of pregnancy that identifies babies at increased risk of having Down syndrome or Trisomy 18. It is a combination of a blood test and a special ultrasound. The blood is analyzed for two proteins called freeBeta-hCG and PAPP-A which are normally found in the blood of all pregnant women. The ultrasound examines the baby's neck, measuring the amount of fluid accumulation behind the neck of the baby, called the nuchal translucency (NT). The blood test is combined with the ultrasound measurement to estimate a specific risk for Down syndrome and Trisomy 18. The blood test and

the NT measurement together can detect over 90% of babies with Down syndrome, 97% of babies with Trisomy 18, as well as 40% of babies with congenital heart defects.

When can Ultra-Screen™ be done?

Ultra-Screen™ is a test performed between 11-14 weeks of pregnancy. Since most pregnancies are normal, most women can be reassured about the health of their baby following the Ultra-Screen™ test. Importantly, this reassurance is now available in the first trimester, at a time when only you know you are pregnant. By testing earlier in pregnancy, you can have the reassurance you are seeking earlier than any other test permits.

Who is a candidate for Ultra-Screen™?

Screening should be offered to all pregnant women who are less than 35 years of age, are between 11-14 weeks of pregnancy, and whose babies have a low risk for Down syndrome and Trisomy 18.

If you are over age 34 or have an increased risk of a chromosome problem in your baby, it is recommended that you consider having a CVS or amniocentesis for prenatal chromosome testing. Many women still want reassurance early in their pregnancy, so some women may choose to have an Ultra-Screen™, then may consider having a diagnostic test performed later.

How accurate is Ultra-Screen™?

Ultra-Screen™ has a very high detection rate for chromosome abnormalities, and is able to detect over 90% of babies with Down syndrome or Trisomy 18. This rate exceeds the detection rate of any second trimester screening program, which typically detect from 65%-80% of Down syndrome. Ultra-Screen™ can also detect additional abnormalities, including 40% of congenital heart defects in the baby. However, no screening test can detect all birth defects. Ultra-Screen™ cannot detect open neural tube defects or perinatal complications; thus, a 2nd trimester MSAFP screen should be recommended.

What if my test shows an increased risk?

An increased risk does not mean a chromosome disorder has been diagnosed. Your doctor will discuss additional testing which can determine whether your baby has a disorder or if there are other explanations for this test result. For example, the blood protein levels may be normal variations, you may be further along in the pregnancy than previously thought, or you may have twins. Additional testing, including ultrasound and chromosome testing (amniocentesis or chorionic villi sampling) can safely and accurately diagnose your baby's chromosome make-up. ■