When will the report be ready?

A consolidated Second Trimester Screening report and the detailed scan report is usually given the next day.

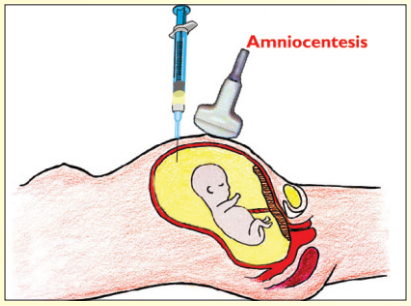
"Screen negative report " - What does it mean ?

"Screen Negative" means that the risk of having a Down syndrome baby is less than 1 in 250. This places you in low risk category and there is no need for the confirmatory test.

"Screen Positive report " - What does it mean ?

If the risk predicted is 1:250 or higher it is termed as "Screen positive" indicating an increased risk of Down syndrome. However it does not mean the baby is affected and further definitive test - Amniocentesis is required to confirm whether the baby is affected or not.

Amniocentesis



Amniocentesis is done under ultrasound guidance. 20 ml of amniotic fluid is drawn from around the baby using a needle and syringe. This sample will contain the cells of the fetus and is sent to the genetic lab for analysis. The report from the lab will indicate whether the baby has Down syndrome or any other major structural chromosomal abnormality.

Note

- **Please discuss the screening report with your doctor.**
- **You may approach us for any further clarification.**

Mandatory Patient Information

- ☞ *Date of birth*
- ☞ *Present weight*
- ☞ *Last Menstrual Period - Date*
- ☞ *Earlier scan reports if any*
- ☞ *Details of previous pregnancies if any*
- ☞ *Diabetic history if any*

Screening test is performed by prior appointment with a dedicated team of FMF Certified operators

CONTACT

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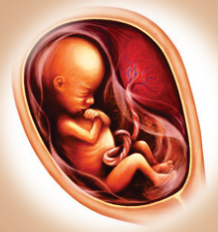
Screening for Down Syndrome in First & Second Trimester

197, Dr. Natesan Road,
Mylapore, Chennai 600 004

Ultrasound scan
(I & II Trimester)

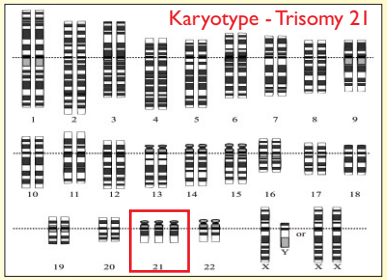


Triple / Quadruple test
(Free ßhCG, Estriol, AFP & Inhibin)

Thank you for choosing MediScan Screening Services...

Majority of pregnancies end happily with the birth of a healthy child. At the same time every pregnant woman has an inherent risk of delivering a baby with Down syndrome. Prenatal screening is designed to identify women who are at a higher risk of delivering a baby with Down syndrome. Scientific research over the last two decades has shown that ultrasound between 11 to 13 weeks combined with a blood test for the pregnant woman can help detect about 85% - 90% of Down syndrome early.

What is Down syndrome?



Down syndrome is a chromosomal disorder caused by the presence of an extra chromosome 21 (Trisomy 21) in the cells of the developing babies, which manifests in children with varying degrees of mental retardation, congenital heart defects, gastro intestinal anomalies, low muscle tone and abnormal palmar creases . This is known to occur in 1 in every 600 pregnancies around the world. About half of the fetuses with Down syndrome will miscarry and only about 50% will result in a live birth.

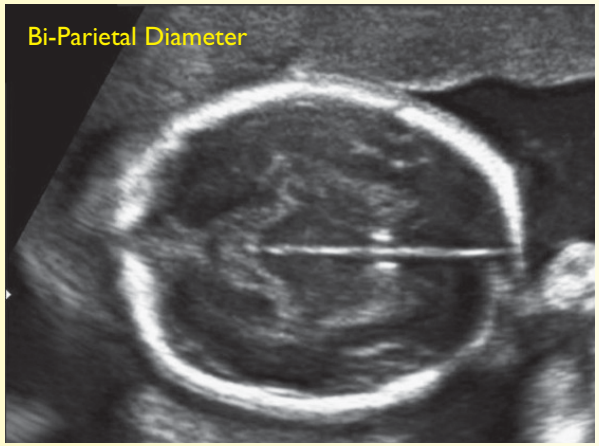
Does maternal age alter the occurrence risk of Down syndrome?

As the maternal age increases, the relative risk for Down syndrome also increases. The risk of having a baby with Down syndrome doubles at maternal age 35 years. However, it should be remembered that majority (70%) of Down babies are born to younger mothers as majority of pregnancies happen in this age group. Hence **screening tests should be offered to all pregnant women.**

What does Second trimester screening involve?

The patient who has missed first trimester screening has two options in second trimester to screen for chromosomal anomalies. Triple Screening test or the newly developed quadruple test.

The Screening involves an ultrasound scan and a blood test for the mother. Basic details about the pregnancy such as last menstrual period, details of previous pregnancies, medical history, date of birth and current weight will be collected. This information is needed for the risk prediction.



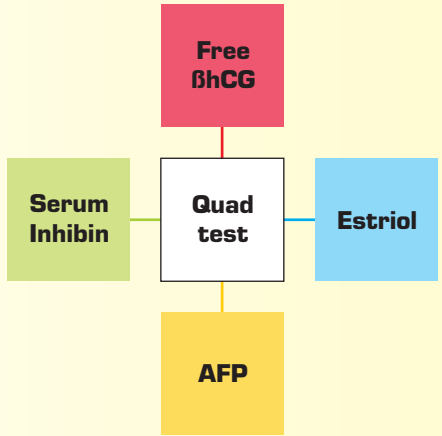
Second Trimester Scan - Steps

- The first step of screening is Ultra sonogram, which looks at the baby in detail. The Bi-Parietal Diameter (BPD) is measured to confirm the gestational age.

Triple test includes a scan to measure the BPD of the fetus as this test can be done only between 16-20 weeks with BPD between 33-52 mm. In addition, maternal blood is taken for measuring the levels of three hormones; ßhCG, unconjugated estriol and AFP.

The sensitivity of this test is only 60% as compared to first trimester combined test which has a sensitivity of 85 - 90%. To increase the sensitivity another test - the quadruple test is available. In this, in addition to AFP, ßhCG, Estriol and Serum Inhibin levels are also measured. This quad test has a sensitivity of 70-75%.

The value of the scan measurements, the blood tests and the mother's weight and age go through a software that predicts the risk of having a baby with Down syndrome. This estimate of risk will be mentioned as a ratio (eg. 1:1200 or 1:70). The ratio of 1:1200 means that only one in 1200 women will have a Down syndrome baby. The results of the test do not tell us if the baby is affected or not. It will only say whether the woman is at 'low risk' or 'high risk' for Down syndrome.



If the new risk is <1 in 250 which is a high risk category, the couple is given the option of direct testing (Amniocentesis) to rule out chromosomal anomalies.