Natera**Academy**

Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing

Scan to learn about NIPT

What is Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing?

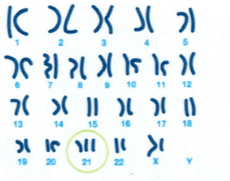
Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing, or NIPT, is a blood test performed during pregnancy that…

- Tells whether your baby has a high or low chance of having certain chromosomal conditions, along with providing your baby's sex.
- Can screen for Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), along with other chromosomal conditions that involve intellectual disability and health complications that could require medical intervention and shorten lifespan.

What is a chromosomal condition?

DNA contains the genetic information that tells our bodies how to function. Chromosomes are the packages that store DNA in our cells. A person usually has 46 chromosomes grouped into 23 pairs. One chromosome in each pair comes from each parent.

- Chromosomal conditions occur when there is an extra or missing chromosome
- Chromosomal conditions are not usually inherited and occur by chance at conception



Trisomy 21, or Down syndrome, is caused by an extra copy of chromosome 21

Why choose NIPT?

NIPT is an accurate, non-invasive way to determine your baby's chance of having common chromosomal conditions.

If results are **high risk**, speak with your provider to determine **next steps**, such as genetic counseling, detailed ultrasound, and the option of diagnostic testing. No irreversible decisions should be made based on the results of any screening test.

If results are **low risk**, having a baby with a chromosomal condition is **highly unlikely, but still possible**.

How does NIPT compare with other prenatal chromosome tests?

NIPT

- Blood test evaluating DNA, **no risk to baby**
- Performed as early as **9 weeks of pregnancy**
- **Most accurate and comprehensive** screening test

Maternal Serum Screening

- Blood test measuring hormones, no risk to baby
- Performed only at specific times in 1st or 2nd trimester
- High false positive rate, misses more at-risk pregnancies

Diagnostic Testing (CVS or Amniocentesis)

- Invasive procedure, small risk of miscarriage
- Performed typically between 12-20 weeks of pregnancy
- Definitive and comprehensive results

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Genetic Carrier Screening

Scan to learn about carrier screening

What is carrier screening?

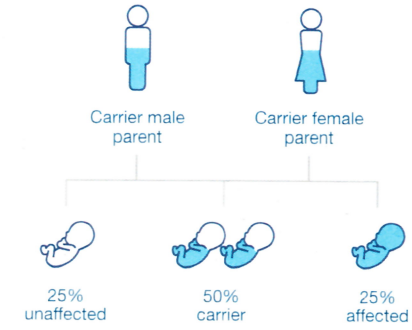
Carrier screening is a genetic test that determines your chances of passing on a genetic condition to your baby. Carrier screening...

- Is available to everyone either before or during pregnancy
- Typically only requires a routine blood draw
- Is done for your partner if your results show you are a carrier

What does it mean to be a carrier?

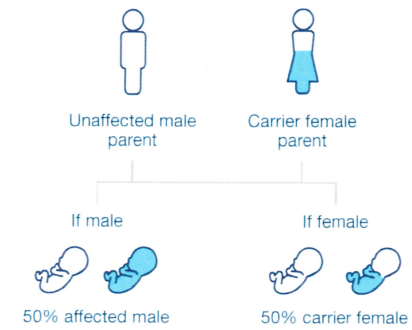
Carriers are typically healthy, but they could have a baby with the genetic condition they carry.

Autosomal recessive inheritance



Examples: cystic fibrosis, spinal muscular atrophy, sickle cell disease

X-linked inheritance



Example: Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Why do carrier screening?

Many genetic conditions benefit from early medical treatment. Knowing your baby could have a condition can help you...

- Identify a specialized care team to plan for delivery and early treatment options
- Connect with families of children with the same condition
- Plan for medical expenses and supplemental insurance
- Understand risks and options for the future

Scan to hear a mother's personal experience

What happens after carrier screening?

If results show you **are a carrier**, speak with your provider to determine **next steps**, such as genetic counseling, partner testing, and/or testing during or after pregnancy.

If results show you **are not a carrier**, having a baby with one of the genetic conditions screened for is **highly unlikely, although still possible**.