

Non Invasive Prenatal Test (NIPT) Pathology Request Patient Information

This is a non-invasive blood test which studies the fetal DNA in the mother's blood and can be done from 9 to 39 weeks pregnancy. The fetal DNA tested comes from the placenta; this DNA is identical to the DNA found in the actual cells of the fetus in about 98% of all pregnancies. The condition where the DNA in the placenta is different to that of the fetus is known as confined placental mosaicism.

It is NOT suitable for:

- Multiple pregnancy
- Donor eggs or embryos
- Women with a past bone marrow transfer

The purpose of the Panorama Non-Invasive Prenatal Test (NIPT) is to screen the fetus for the chromosome abnormalities, including the specific whole extra or missing chromosomes 13, 18, 21, X and Y plus optionally specified microdeletions (small missing sections of specified chromosomes). You have the option of requesting a screen and reporting of the fetal sex as well. This screen will therefore detect common chromosome problems such as Down syndrome that may lead to a child born with degrees of mental impairment.

It does NOT detect:

- Any other cause for mental impairment in a child
- Disorders of any other chromosomes, that may lead to an early miscarriage
- Any other cause for birth defects

The test takes two to three weeks to perform. At that time you will receive one of the following results:

High Risk: There is an increased likelihood that your fetus has an abnormality of one of the above chromosomes and further investigation is strongly recommended.

Low Risk: There is a reduced likelihood that your fetus has an abnormality of one of the above chromosomes.

No result: This can happen when there is insufficient fetal DNA to give a clear result. The test would then need to be repeated (at no cost to you) and this would add 2 to 3 weeks onto your gestation period by the time you receive a new result. A high BMI will increase the likelihood of a low/insufficient fetal DNA content.

A "No result" may also happen if the parents are related or the mother's parents are related. Also when there is a multiple pregnancy or vanishing twin or for any other reason the DNA pattern is not clear. A repeat test in these instances is unlikely to generate a result and you will be offered a refund.

The result will be sent back to your referring doctor who will contact you to let you know.

With confined placental mosaicism affecting 1 – 2% of pregnancies, an incorrect high- or low- risk result can occur. The Panorama screen is not a diagnostic test – it will not confirm any of these chromosome abnormalities. It will only provide the risk for each of these in your current pregnancy. Therefore, **DECISIONS ABOUT YOUR PREGNANCY SHOULD NEVER BE MADE BASED ON THESE SCREENING RESULTS ALONE AS THEY NEITHER CONFIRM NOR RULE OUT THE PRESENCE OF A CHROMOSOME ABNORMALITY IN THE FETUS.**

It is the responsibility of your doctor ordering this test to understand the reliability of the test results, the limitations and the alternatives and to explain them to you. Before you commence with the test and sign this form, please ask your doctor for more information about the test and the results if required.