



Women's Care

GENETIC TESTING DURING PREGNANCY

Tetra screen (also known as triple screen and AFP test)

- An elective test covered by most insurance companies and Medicaid
- Performed between 15-20 weeks during the pregnancy
- Involves obtaining a sample of patient's blood
- Results available in 2-3 days
- Screens for chromosome defects involving trisomy 13, 18, and 21(Down's Syndrome)
- Also screens for neural tube defects (spina bifida) and several other birth defects
- Results reveal if your pregnancy is at increased risk for a baby with a problem
- The test may miss problems
- The test may be falsely positive (meaning that the ultrasound and other testing may be normal and you deliver a normal baby)
- IF YOUR TEST RESULTS ARE POSITIVE FOR AN INCREASED PROBLEM RISK, YOU WILL BE REFERRED IMMEDIATELY TO A PERINATOLOGIST IN WICHITA FOR A LEVEL II ULTRASOUND. THAT DOCTOR MAY RECOMMEND AN AMNIOCENTESIS
- A normal test is helpful to reassure parents regarding the pregnancy
- Diagnosis of a birth defect prior to birth is helpful in managing delivery and helping parents prepare for the birth

Cystic fibrosis screen

- Cystic fibrosis is an inherited disease – persons affected have chronic lung infections and digestive tract problems. A person has to inherit a gene from both parents to develop the disease
- It is possible to be a carrier without a family history of the disease
- A blood test is available to determine if you are a carrier
- If you are a carrier, then we test the father of the baby. If both of you are carriers, then there is a one in four chance of the baby having the disease.
- An amniocentesis can be performed to test the baby
- This test can be done at any time during your pregnancy or if you are not pregnant.
- It is helpful if you want to know if you are a carrier. You may want to avoid pregnancy in the future if you are at risk. If both you and your partner are carriers, you may be a candidate for donor eggs or semen. Some patients choose to terminate a pregnancy if they know the baby has cystic fibrosis.
- It is expensive and not all insurance companies cover the test. Be sure to check with your carrier about coverage.
- Feel free to call the billing department at the Hutchinson Clinic for questions about billing.

**Thanks for choosing Hutch Clinic Women's Care to help welcome your new baby.
For appointments, call 620-669-2578.**