

# Prenatal diagnosis – clinical introduction

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CENTRUM MEDISCHE GENETICA

UZ BRUSSEL – VUB

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# Pregnancies

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No increased risk

High risk

- Familial history
- Screening tests



# Prenatal diagnosis vs Screening

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## Diagnosis

- Increased risk
- +/- specific condition
- Test result gives a clear answer



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## Screening

- “general” pregnant population
- Frequent anomalies
- Non-invasive
- Test result gives a risk estimation

- YES
- NO
- MAYBE

# Aim of diagnosis / screening

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Inform future parent(s)

Reassurance in case of normal findings (no increased risk)

Allow making of informed decisions

Sometimes treatment

Termination of pregnancy

Prepare for the birth of a child with a medical condition

# Prenatal screening

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Ultrasound

Tests on maternal blood

- Serum markers
- cffDNA

# Ultrasound

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During pregnancy reimbursement of 3 US( 1 per trimester)

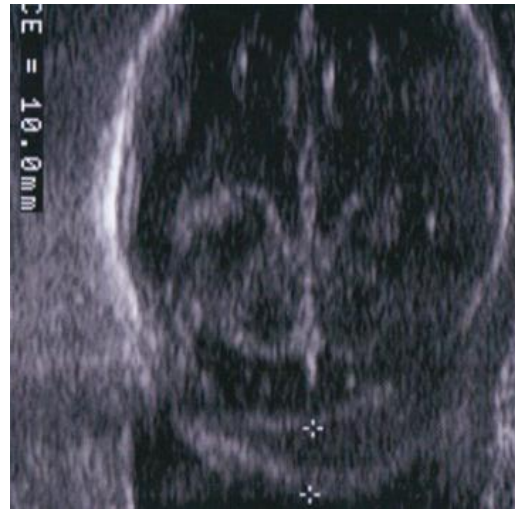
First US ( +/- 8 weken) not reimbursed

High-risk pregnancies : extra US

Code	Aard prestatie	Honorarium	Tegemoetkoming	
			Normale tegemoetk.	Verhoogde tegemoetk.
460515	Basisechografie door radioloog	23,41	20,93	23,41
469895	Basisechografie door geneesheer-specialist die geen radioloog is	26,92	24,44	26,92
460530	Echografie door radioloog bij hoog obstetrisch of foetaal risico	46,16	43,68	46,16
469910	Echografie bij hoog obstetrisch of foetaal risico door geneesheer-specialist die geen radioloog is	46,16	43,68	46,16
460552	Echografie door radioloog bij ernstige aangeboren misvorming of bewezen risico	89,02	86,54	87,92
469932	Echografie bij ernstige aangeboren misvorming of bewezen risico door geneesheer-specialist die geen radioloog is	89,02	86,54	89,02

# Ultrasound

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Nuchal translucency

# Ultrasound

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<b>Fetal NT (mm)</b>	
Normal karyotype	2.0
Trisomy 21	3.4
Trisomy 18	5.5
Trisomy 13	4.0

Kagan et al, Hum Reprod, 2008



# Ultrasound

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Sandal gap



Hypoplasia nasal bone

# Ultrasound

## Single-Gene Disorders

- Holoprosencephaly
- Infantile polycystic kidney disease
- Meckel-Gruber syndrome (an autosomal recessive disorder with encephalocyst, polydactyly, and polycystic kidneys)
- Fryns syndrome (an autosomal recessive disorder with abnormalities of the diaphragm, limbs, genitourinary tract, and central nervous system)

## Disorders Usually Thought of as Multifactorial

- Cleft lip and other facial malformations
- Clubfoot
- Congenital heart defects
- Neural tube defects

## Anomalies That May Indicate a Syndrome

- Abnormal genitalia
- Cystic hygroma
- Polydactyly
- Omphalocele
- Radial ray defects



Thompson & Thompson,  
p354

# Ultrasound

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# Ultrasound

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Abnormality	Percent of Fetuses with Abnormal Karyotype	
	If Isolated Abnormality	If Multiple Abnormalities
Ventriculomegaly	2	17
Choroid plexus cysts	≪1	48
Cystic hygroma	52	71
Nuchal edema	19	45
Diaphragmatic hernia	2	49
Heart defects	16	66
Duodenal atresia	38	64
Exomphalos	8	46
Renal abnormalities	3	24

# Tests on maternal blood

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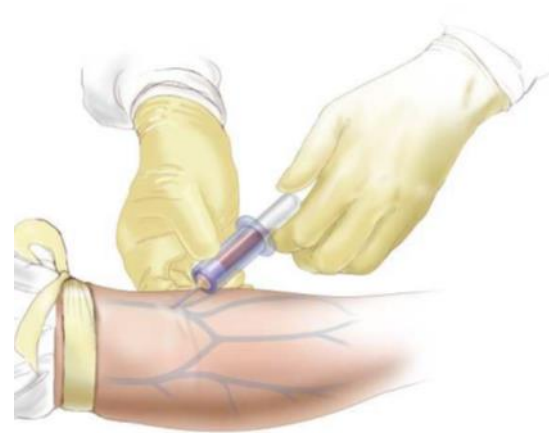
Alpha-foetoproteïn

Papp-A (pregnancy-associated plasma protein A)

hCG ( totaal of B-subunit)

Unconjugated oestriol

Inhibine



# Tests on maternal blood

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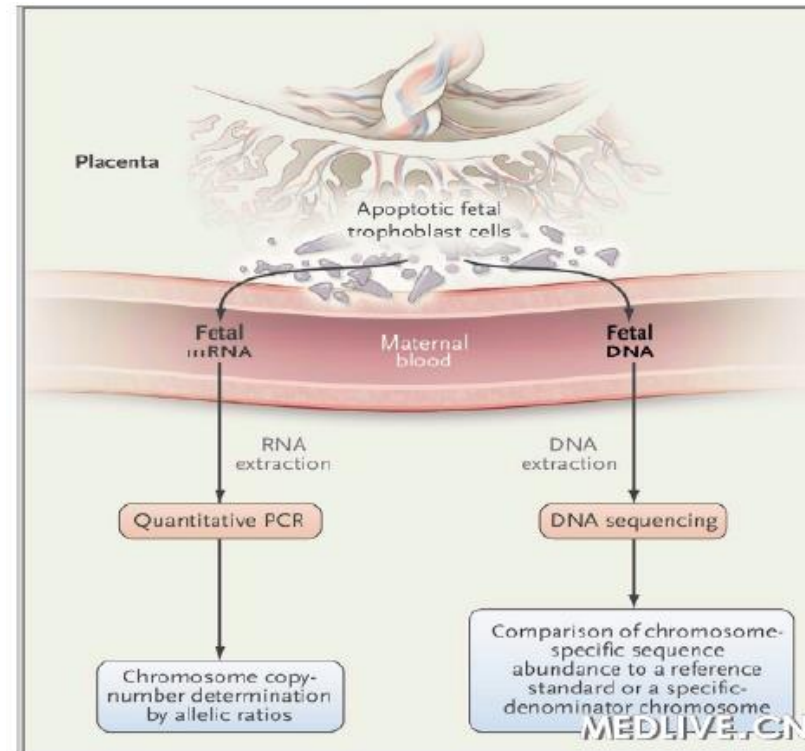
	First-Trimester Screen			Second-Trimester Screen			
	Nuchal Translucency	PAPP-A	Free $\beta$ -hCG	uE <sub>3</sub>	AFP	hCG	Inhibin A
Trisomy 21	↑	↓	↑	↓	↓	↑	↑
Trisomy 18	↑	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	—
Trisomy 13	↑	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	—
Neural tube defect	—	—	—	—	↑↑	—	—

# Tests on maternal blood

NIPT (non-invasive prenatal test)

1997 Lo et al: cffDNA (cell free fetal DNA) in maternal blood

Cfr next presentation



# Invasive Prenatal diagnosis

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Chorionic villus sampling (CVS)

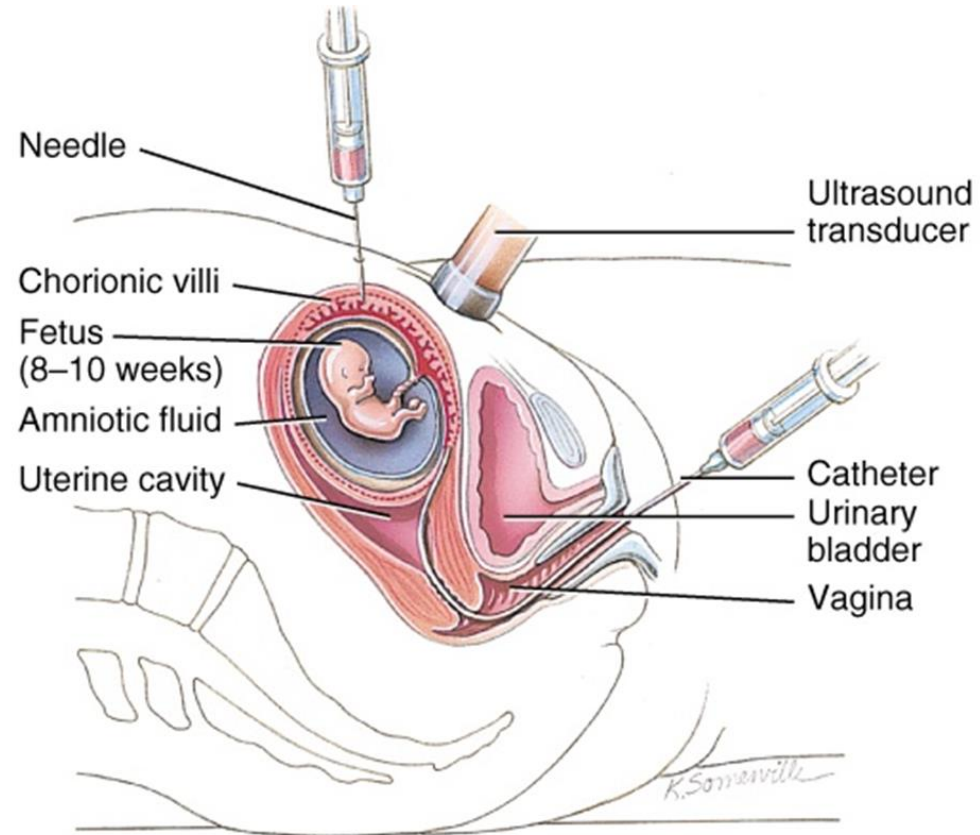
Amniocentesis (AC)

Umbilical cord puncture



# Chorionic villus sampling (CVS)

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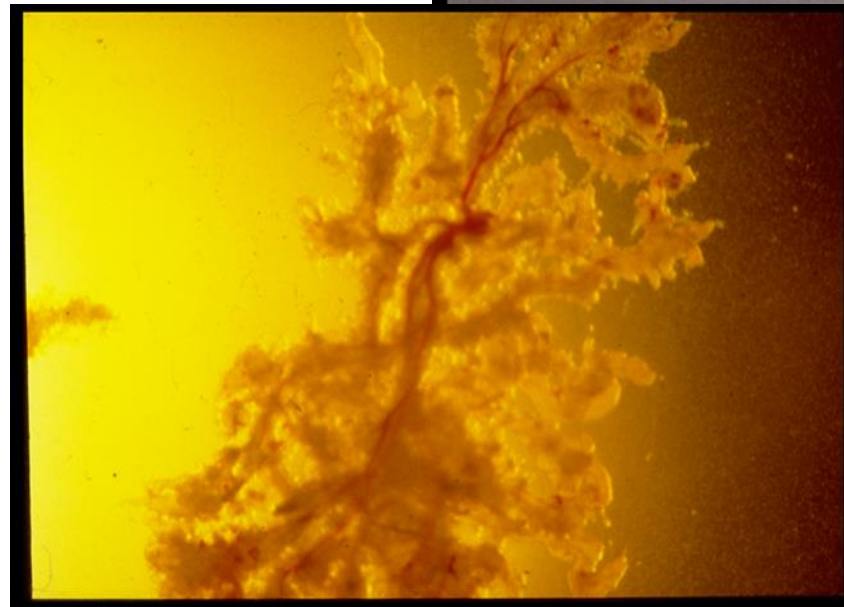


# CVS

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11-13 weeks

Chorionic villi



# CVS

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## Results come earlier

- Earlier reassurance
- Options for termination of pregnancy

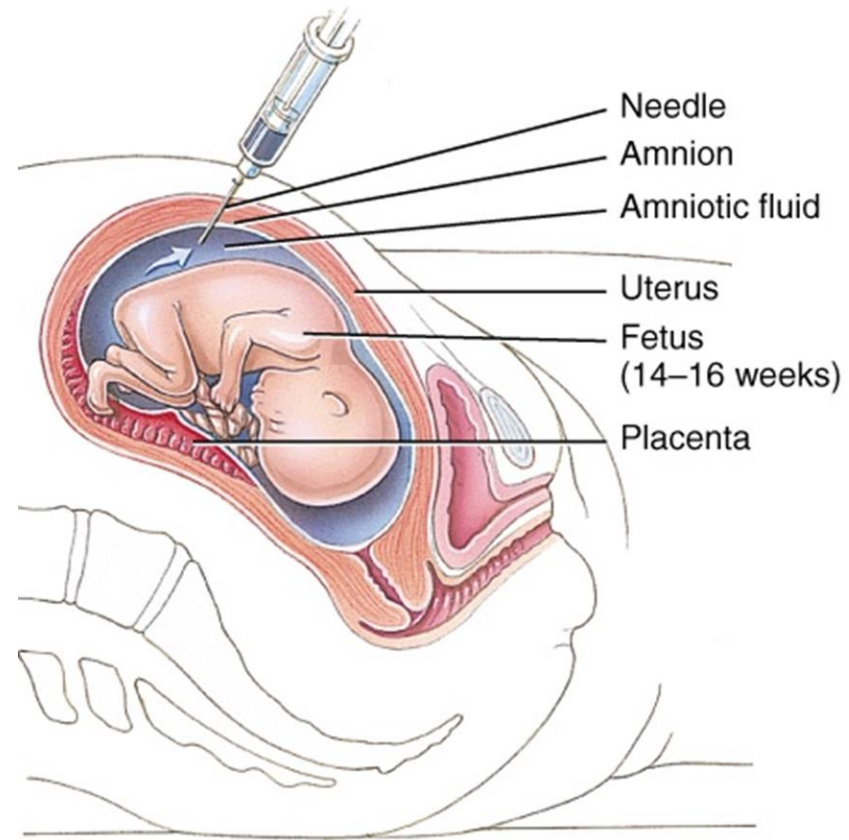
## Placental mozaicism

## Risk for miscarriage

- + 0,5%
- Mostly in first month after cvs

# Amniocentesis

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# Amniocentesis

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From 15 weeks

Amniocytes ( mixture of cells)

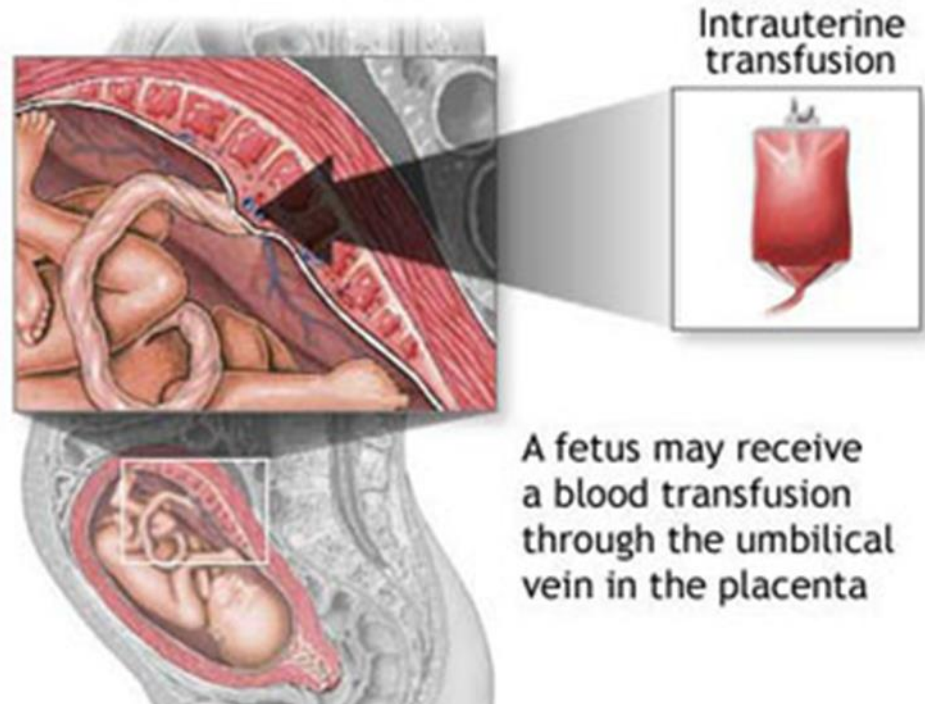
Results come later

Risk for miscarriage

- +0,5%

# Umbilical cord puncture

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# Umbilical cord puncture

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From 19 weeks

Foetal blood

Seldom for genetic diagnosis

Foetal anemia

Therapeutical actions (e.g. blood transfusion)

# Invasive tests

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Non-genetic analysis

Chromosomal analysis

Monogenic conditions

- Specific gene analysis
- Gene panel
- Biochemical tests



# Chromosomal analysis

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See next presentations

High risk for chromosomal anomaly based on screening test ( NIPT, US)

High risk for chromosomal anomaly based on abnormal karyotype in parent (e.g. balanced translocation)

Low risk but additional analysis in a prenatal diagnosis for monogenic disorder

# Monogenic conditions

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## Familial history

- E.g. couple with known  $\frac{1}{4}$  risk for cystic fibrosis (CFTR)
- E.g. couple with known  $\frac{1}{2}$  for neurofibromatosis (NF1 )
- !! Genetic defect must be known, no prenatal diagnosis can be offered for “intellectual disability”, “autism”, ...

## US anomalies

- E.g. suspicion of achondroplasia
- E.g. suspicion of Beckwith Wiedemann syndrome

See next presentations

# Conclusion

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Prenatal screening/ diagnosis is an option for the pregnant couple

Autonomous decision ( cfr non-directive counseling)

## Results

- reassurance
- diagnosis
  - Prognosis
  - Option termination of pregnancy
  - Preparing the future parents and family
  - Optimizing neonatal care
  - Counseling of couple and family