



Genetic Screening - NIPT

What is NIPT?

Non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) is the most accurate genetic screening test offered in Ontario and may be publicly funded or self-pay depending on your situation. There is no risk to the baby to perform this test. NIPT can tell you the chance for having a baby with Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), Trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome) and other chromosome differences. It can also report the sex of the baby, and screen for sex chromosome differences such as Turner's Syndrome.

Should I do this? Do I have to do this?

There is no right or wrong answer on whether you would like to proceed with this genetic screen. It is completely optional! For some families, extra information is helpful to know if they are having a baby with a chromosomal condition for planning purposes. For some families, it may affect the decision to proceed or not with the pregnancy.

When is it done?

You can have NIPT from the time you are 9 or 10 weeks pregnant until the end of the pregnancy. This bloodwork can be done at the lab in Marathon.

* If you decide to have NIPT from the start, you do not need another screening test (such as **eFTS**). You should still be offered a **11-14 week (nuchal translucency) ultrasound** on its own to get more information about the health of the baby.

How long does it take to get results?

It can take approximately 7 – 10 working days for a result to be received. If there is a “high risk” your health provider will call you otherwise the result will be discussed at your next appointment.

Do I have to pay for this test?

Publicly-Funded NIPT	Private-Pay NIPT
- Being age 40 or older at time of birth	- If you do not meet the criteria for any of the reasons to have it publicly-funded.
- Having past pregnancy with Trisomy 18,21,13	- Can be done at Life Labs or Dynacare or laboratories outside of Canada
- Getting a “screen positive” for other prenatal screen (ex. eFTS)	- Cost will depend on lab, however it is approximately \$500-800.
- Being pregnant with twins	

<https://www.bornontario.ca/en/psa/prenatal-screening-options/non-invasive-prenatal-testing.aspx>