

What is NT?

This is the fluid collection beneath the fetal skin in the region of the fetal neck that is measured by means of an ultrasound scan. A thickened NT beyond normal thickness is associated with Down's Syndrome or any other chromosomal abnormalities. The normal thickness should be less than 2.5mm.

What is serum biochemistry?

This is a sample of your blood that will be analysed for levels of two hormones that are released by your body during pregnancy, namely free beta hCG (Human Chorionic Gonadotropin) and PAPP-A (Pregnancy associated plasma Protein A) Their levels will determine your baby's risk of having Down's Syndrome.



Service is available at:

Radiology Department, Parkway East Hospital
321 Joo Chiat Place Singapore 427990
Tel: (65) 6340 8710 Fax: 6340 8670

Radiologic Clinic
Magnetic Resonance Medical Centre
3 Mount Elizabeth, #01-01/02 Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre
Singapore 228510
Tel: (65) 6731 2727 Fax: 6235 5279

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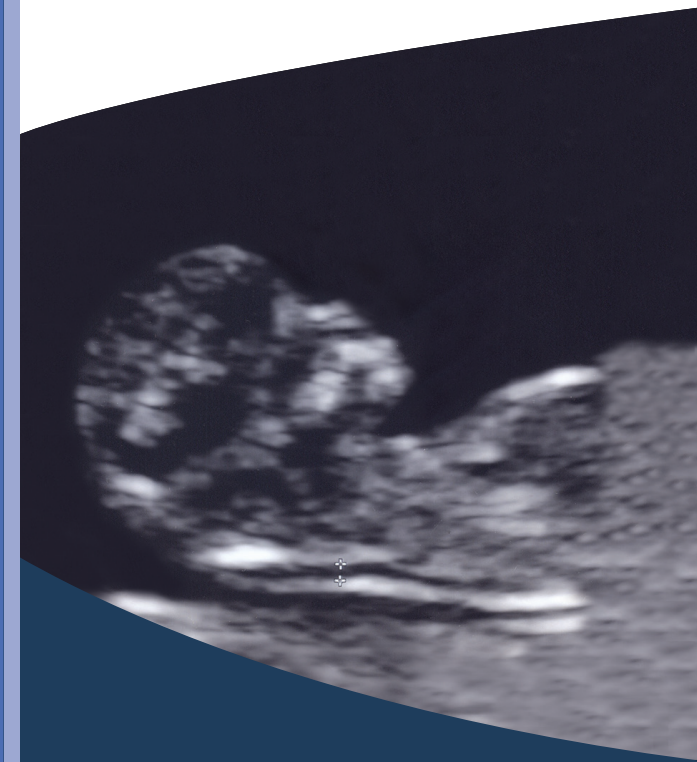
Your appointment is at:

- Parkway East Hospital
- Radiologic Clinic

Date: _____

Time: _____

11-13 Week NT Scan With Maternal Serum Biochemistry



11-13 Week Nuchal Translucency Scan (NT) with Maternal Serum Biochemistry for Risk Assessment of Fetal Anomalies

This is a First Trimester option commonly referred to as an OSCAR test that is offered to all pregnant women as an earlier and more accurate method of screening for chromosomal abnormalities, in particular Down's Syndrome (Trisomy 21)

The risk assessment is done by a combination of your maternal age, fetal length, fetal NT and serum biochemistry at 11-13 weeks 6 days into your pregnancy.

A composite risk assessment score will then be computed for you.

What are the benefits of OSCAR?

Studies have shown that Down's Syndrome is associated with

- increased maternal age
- increased fetal NT
- increased maternal serum free beta hCG
- decreased PAPP-A

The detection rate of Down's Syndrome by this method would be about 90% for a false positive rate of 5%. This is superior to the 65% by maternal age and second trimester serum biochemistry; and 80% by NT and maternal age in the first trimester. Earlier screening will provide assurance for you if your result is normal.

It will also enable you to decide whether you want any further invasive tests such as Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS) or Amniocentesis.

What other information can I get from the procedure?

- An ultrasound examination on your baby is carried out to provide information that it is growing and developing normally and to diagnose any major defects.
- Your baby's length (CRL) is measured to check its gestation age and provide an estimate of your delivery date.
- The composite risk assessment score is calculated with strict adherence to an established fetal foundation in the United Kingdom.

Your risk assessment result

- The combined NT scan and the blood test will give you an assessment (likelihood ratio) for your risk of having a Down's Syndrome baby.
- Your 'starting' risk based on your age will be compared with the 'new' risk.
- Your doctor will counsel you on your combined estimated risk and the available options for subsequent management of your pregnancy.
- A risk of 1 in 300 or more is generally considered to be high. If the risk of Down's is 1:300 or greater, an invasive test may be advised.