

Unable to perform Combined Screening due to fetal position or gestational age

Information for patients



You have attended hospital today for combined screening for Down's Syndrome, Edward's Syndrome and Patau's Syndrome. (This involves a dating scan including a measurement from the back of your baby's neck and a blood test that measures two pregnancy hormones).

Unfortunately, we have not been able to measure the Nuchal Translucency (The pad of fluid at the back of your baby's neck). This may be due to the position of your baby or because your pregnancy is too far advanced for this particular test.

As you have already consented for combined screening, which is now not possible, a further screening test called the quadruple test can be carried out by your community Midwife after 14 weeks and three days of pregnancy but before 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Quadruple test

This screening test is a blood test only and measures four pregnancy hormones. This will provide you with a numerical risk of your baby being affected by Down's syndrome but does **NOT** screen for Edward's or Patau's Syndrome.

The detection rate for the Quadruple test is 80% as opposed to the Combined test which has an 85% detection rate

Following today's visit, either have your blood taken in antenatal clinic after your scan.

But only if you are between 14+3 and 20 weeks pregnant today

Or contact your community Midwife to arrange an appointment around 16 weeks of pregnancy for the quadruple test to be performed. You may already have a 16 week appointment booked, in this case, ask the Midwife for the quadruple test at this appointment.

Further information

There are other screening tests available with a better detection rate at a cost. If you feel you need further information about any screening test, please either refer to the '**Screening tests for you and your baby**' booklet that was given to you at your initial booking appointment or telephone the antenatal screening office on **0113 206 5530**.



What did you think of your care?

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