

Prenatal Tests

Initial OB Profile: This is a group of tests to assess baseline health of a pregnant patient. The tests include: complete blood count, Rubella screen, syphilis test, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C screening, Blood type and Rh factor.

HIV Test: Human immunodeficiency virus is a virus that can affect a person's Immune system. This virus can be transferred through blood and body fluids. A pregnant patient can transfer the virus to her unborn baby. A test for HIV will be offered to all pregnant patients.

Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Testing: Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disorder that affects breathing and digestion. In order for a baby to be at risk for cystic fibrosis, both parents have to be a carrier of the gene. This is a test involving testing the mother's blood for the gene and if her test is Positive then it is recommended to test the father.

Nuchal Fold Translucency Testing: This test is an ultrasound measurement of the thickness at the neck of the fetus. An increase in the thickness may be a sign of Down's Syndrome. Blood testing for Pregnancy Associated Plasma Protein and Free Beta Human Chorionic Gonadotropin is also done at 10 to 14 weeks in addition to the sonogram measurement.

Alpha Fetoprotein Testing: This is a substance made by the growing fetus. It is present in amniotic fluid and in the mother's blood stream. At 15 to 20 weeks of pregnancy, a blood test from the mother's arm can indirectly screen the baby for open neural tube defects and Down's syndrome.

Gestational Diabetes Screening: Due to high demands on the pregnant woman's body, some women will develop diabetes during pregnancy. This can put the baby at risk if blood sugar levels are not kept in good control. All pregnant women will be screened for gestational diabetes at 26 to 28 weeks. If the initial testing is abnormal, then further testing is done.

Rhogam: This is a synthetic blood product given to women with a negative blood type. Rhogam protects the mother from developing antibodies against a positive blood type.

Group B Strep Testing: Group Beta Strep is a bacterium that a woman may have in the vaginal canal. This bacterium does not generally cause any symptoms or problems for the woman. This bacterium has been shown to cause pneumonia if a baby is exposed to it during a vaginal birth. Therefore, all women will be screened at 36 weeks for Group B Strep. If results are positive, the mother will be given antibiotics at time of labor.