



Susan Yarian, MD | Eric Pulsfus, MD | Thomas Searle, MD | Kelly Jago, MD  
Barbara Dembek, CNM | Amy Loughlin, CNM | Elizabeth Meadows, CNM | Christa Zielinski, CNM | Lorraine Searle, CNM  
300 Health Park Blvd., Ste. 3002, St. Augustine, FL 32086 | phone.904.819.1500 | fax.904.810.1023

## ***Genetic Testing In Pregnancy***

*Some babies are born with genetic abnormalities. The most common and best known is Down's Syndrome, or Trisomy 21, but there are many other less common genetic abnormalities that occur occasionally.*

*Since 2008, we have offered a first trimester screen for genetic abnormalities to our patients. The first trimester screen consists of a maternal blood sample obtained at 10 weeks gestation and an ultrasound done at 12 weeks gestation. The test is not perfect; it's a screening test which will be correct approximately 95% of the time. There are additional tests such as amniocentesis which may be used to confirm the results of the screening test if it is abnormal.*

*If you start your prenatal care after 13 weeks gestation, another test is available. At 16 weeks gestation a blood sample is taken; in general, the accuracy of this test is about 75%.*

*These tests are optional. Many patients feel that the results of these tests will not help them prepare or change the course of their pregnancy; others feel the information will be useful. Talk with us if you have questions regarding any testing done during pregnancy.*