

Date

Antenatal and Newborn Screening Team
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CRN:

Dear

RE: **Your First Trimester Combined Screening result**

Following our conversation on **DATE XXXXXXXX**, I am sending this letter as a summary of our conversation; if there is anything you are not sure about or disagree with please contact me.

You recently had the 'combined test' to screen for Down's syndrome, Edwards' syndrome and Patau's syndrome. This has shown that you have a higher chance of having a baby with Down's syndrome.

Your results show you have 1 chance in **X** of your baby having Down's syndrome. I informed you this means if **X** women were in a room with the same results as you, one baby would have Down's syndrome and the other **X** would not - your baby could be the one with Down's syndrome. We also reframed this as a percentage - your baby has a **%** chance of having Down's syndrome.

Your chance of having a baby with Edwards' syndrome or Patau's syndrome is 1:**XXXXXX** this is classed as a lower chance and we would not offer any further testing for Edwards' syndrome or Patau's syndrome with this result.

We discussed the following options:

1. **Invasive testing** (Amniocentesis/Chorionic Villus Sample): this is a diagnostic test and the only way to know for certain if your baby has Down's syndrome before baby is born. There is a 0.5% risk of miscarriage associated with this procedure (1:200). Further information on the procedure can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chorionic-villus-sampling-cvs/>
2. **20 week scan** (carried out between 18⁺⁰ – 20⁺⁶ weeks): this is **not** diagnostic and 50% of babies with Down's syndrome will not be identified in this way as they show no features on scans. So normal appearances at this scan cannot exclude Down's syndrome.
3. Do nothing, and continue with planned antenatal care.
4. **Non Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT)**: this is **not** diagnostic, it is an advanced screening test which is only available privately and costs in the region of £350-400.

Following our conversation, you decided you wish to XXXXXXXX

I have given you the details for ARC – Antenatal Results and Choices - as a good website for information; www.arc-uk.org

You can find more information about Antenatal Screening for this condition, including details of parent support groups, at www.nhs.uk/depscreening

If you or your partner have any questions about your result, or you just want to talk your choices through again, please do contact either myself or Sheila using the details above.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Reed /Jo Priestley

**Specialist Midwife for Antenatal and Newborn Screening/ Antenatal and Newborn Screening
Midwife**

Please keep this letter in your hand held notes

Date reported