

*For Your Information
From Premier Perinatal*

Cell-free fetal DNA (cffDNA) is fetal DNA circulating freely in the maternal blood stream. It can be sampled by blood testing on the mother. It is estimated that 2-6% of the DNA in the maternal blood is fetal in origin. Studies have shown that cffDNA can first be observed as early as 10 weeks gestation, and the amount of cffDNA increases as the pregnancy progresses. Some insurance companies may not pay for this test; you should check with your insurance carrier. The results should be available 10-14 days after the test is drawn. We will call you with the results, and will let your primary OB/Gyn know the results as well.

Please let us know your wishes regarding knowing the sex of the baby. Part of the cffDNA test does include providing the sex results, but we are happy to abide by your wishes.

Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) An alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) blood test checks the level of AFP in a pregnant woman's blood. AFP is a substance made in the liver of an unborn baby (fetus). The amount of AFP in the blood of a pregnant woman can help see whether the baby may have such problems as spina bifida and anencephaly. An AFP test can also be done as part of a screening test to find other chromosomal problems, such as Down syndrome (trisomy 21) or Edwards syndrome (trisomy 18). An AFP test can help find an omphalocele, a congenital problem in which some of the baby's intestines stick out through the belly wall. The results should be available 3-5 days after the test is drawn. We will call you with the results, and will let your primary OB/Gyn know the results as well.

Neither of these tests require that you fast (not eat) prior to having them drawn.



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