



Nuchal Translucency (NT)

What is the problem?

All babies have a small amount of fluid under the skin, which can be seen as a black space at the back of the neck on scan. This is called nuchal translucency (NT). This collection of fluid normally measures less than 3mm between 11 and 14 weeks of pregnancy.

What does this mean?

During your ultrasound examination today we found that your baby has an increased NT. This can be a normal variation or can be associated with a chromosome abnormality or a heart problem. We see this appearance in about 1 in every 150 pregnancy.

What happens next?

You will be offered the opportunity to discuss these findings with one of our genetic counselors.

You may wish to know for certain whether your baby has a chromosome problem and this would involve an amniocentesis or chorionic villus sampling (CVS). Both these tests carry a small risk of miscarriage and, therefore, for some couples this decision can be very difficult.

You will also have an ultrasound and consult by one of our perinatologist to discuss this further, in addition to the 20-week scan and a fetal echocardiogram, which is a detailed ultrasound of the baby's heart, to exclude other problems.

I have been given a copy of this document. I have read it and all my questions have been answered.

Name _____ Date _____