



COST OF TESTING FOR PRENATAL DNA
(non-invasive prenatal testing - NIPT)
(genetic carrier testing)

Dear OB Patient,

Non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT, also called cell-free DNA screening) is a breakthrough genetic test. The pregnant woman's blood can be screened for fetal DNA conditions including Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) and others (including fetal gender). This can help prevent the need for an amniocentesis or a CVS test, both of which are expensive and risky invasive procedures. The test can be done about 9-10 weeks of pregnancy.

[In late 2022, the California Dept. of Public Health (CDPH) Prenatal Screening Program will offer a modified form of NIPT screening, starting at 10 weeks pregnancy. It will not cover microdeletion testing or sex chromosome aneuploidy testing (extra or missing X or Y chromosomes). The cost of this is unknown at this time.]

Genetic Carrier testing checks for DNA conditions in the mother or father that might be silent in one or both parents but could cause a genetic disease in the baby if the abnormal DNA is inherited from both parents.

These types of advanced DNA blood tests can be expensive. Insurance companies have different policies on whether they will approve or deny the tests and even if they approve them, we do not know how much they will cover and how much the patient will owe.

We usually work with Integrated Genetics and LabCorp for their NIPT tests (MaterniT 21 PLUS or MaterniT GENOME) and their genetic carrier test (Inheritest: Comprehensive). The labs try to help lower your out-of-pocket costs if the test is denied by your insurance provider, or when it is approved but the amount is high and is applied to your deductible.

The website below will help provide your estimated cost for DNA prenatal testing with Integrated Genetics:

www.integratedgenetics.com/patients/cost-estimator.

You should do this first so you can enroll in their program and hopefully qualify for a lower cost.

You could also try contacting your insurance company to see if the testing is covered. See below for the billing codes. Try to find out how much they will pay and what your out-of-pocket cost will be. In our experience, this may take a while.

The insurance (CPT) codes are: Mat21 Plus - 81420 and 81422.
Inheritest - 81223, 81404, 81405, 81406, 81407, 81408 and 81479.

You will be asked to sign a separate consent agreement that you have read and understand the information in this handout. Thank you for your understanding.