

If you experience

- Strong contractions;
- Bleeding;
- Loss of amniotic fluid;
- Fever.

Please contact your doctor or the CHU Sainte-Justine's gynecological emergency service:

514 345-4931 ext. 6086

A nurse or genetic counsellor will review this information with you and answer any questions you may have.



To contact us

514 345-4931, extension 6412 or 6845

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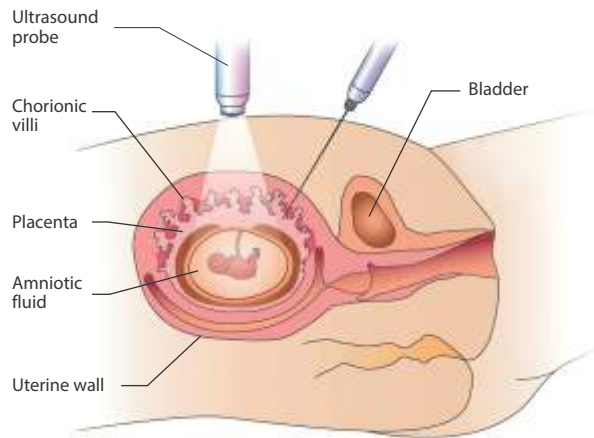
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What is a chorionic biopsy?

A chorionic biopsy (chorionic villus sampling or CVS) is a prenatal diagnostic procedure that is performed during early pregnancy. Guided by ultrasound, an experienced gynecologist removes a very small piece of placental tissue (chorionic villi) using a needle or catheter. This procedure can be done either through the abdomen (transabdominal) or through the vagina (transcervical). It is generally performed between 11 to 13,6/7 weeks gestation.

Transabdominal chorionic biopsy



Adapted from: Greenwood Genetic Center

Why a chorionic biopsy?

A chorionic biopsy is done when there are medical indications that your baby is at a higher risk of having a genetic disorder.

This procedure is used to screen for molecular, biochemical and chromosomal abnormalities in your baby.

The benefit of this procedure is that it is performed early in the pregnancy; therefore, the test results are available sooner than with other available procedures (eg. amniocentesis)

What are the associated risks?

As with other procedures, there are risks associated with a chorionic biopsy.

- The risk of miscarriage is reported to be about 1%. Other complications may include cramps, loss of amniotic fluid, bleeding, fever, or pain in the tested area.
- The risk of maternal cell contamination is reported to be around 1%. To test for maternal cell contamination, blood samples from the mother and father will be used. If there is evidence of maternal cell contamination, you will be asked to do another chorionic biopsy (if time permits) or an amniocentesis.
- In 1 to 2% of cases, an amniocentesis may be required to interpret the test results.

Recommendations

For this test, you are recommended to be accompanied by a loved-one as a precaution for your return home.

Before the chorionic biopsy

The morning of your procedure you should have breakfast as usual. Refrain from urinating \pm 2 hours before your appointment because the procedure is best done when the bladder is full. A fetal ultrasound will be performed before the procedure.

After the biopsy

For 24 hours, avoid working, exercising, engaging in any intense activities, lifting heavy items or children, or walking for long periods of time.

How long before the test results are obtained?

The test results usually take about two weeks. Certain tests results may take longer. It is important that you speak to your doctor, nurse, or genetic counselor for more information.