

CLIENT UPDATE

December 2007

Prenatal Screening: Maternal Serum AFP and Triple Marker tests replaced

Summary of Changes	
Discontinued Test	Replacement Test
Downs/Neural Tube Defect (NTD) Triple Marker	Downs/Neural Tube Defect (NTD) Quad Screen
Alpha Fetoprotein, Maternal (MSAFP)	Neural Tube Defect Risk (NTD Risk only)

Note: If Down Syndrome Risk required, order Quad Marker

The Quad Marker Screen offers an increased detection rate (DR) for Down Syndrome over the Triple Marker and Maternal Serum AFP screens. Therefore, the Triple Marker and Maternal Serum AFP (MSAFP) will be discontinued by our reference lab effective Dec. 3, 2007.

Neural Tube Defect Risk (AFP) test will replace MSAFP for detection of open neural tube defects in the second Trimester for patients who have Down Syndrome Screening in the First Trimester. The NTD Risk (AFP) test is a screen for open neural tube defects only in the second trimester.

Beginning Dec. 3, 2007 orders received for the Triple Marker test will be converted to a Quad Marker Screen. Orders for MSAFP to confirm the need for an open NTD risk assessment in the second trimester will be confirmed and converted to an NTD Risk (AFP) test.

If you have any questions or would like more background information, please call client services at 503-561-5288