

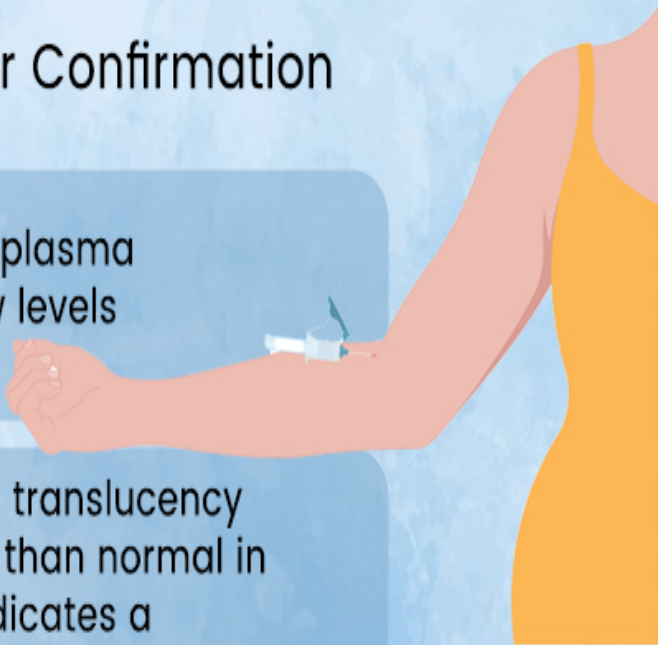
How Down Syndrome Can Be Predicted From Serum β hCG Levels?

Changes In hCG Levels

Pregnant women carrying a child with trisomy 21 (Down syndrome) have higher than normal serum concentrations of β HCG


Comparisons are based on the normal ranges as per gestational age

Additional Tests For Confirmation



Pregnancy-associated plasma protein-A (PAPP-A): Low levels indicate risk

Measurement of nuchal translucency (ultrasound): More fluid than normal in the back of the neck indicates a higher risk



α -fetoprotein (AFP) and Estriol: Low levels mean risk

Inhibin-A: Elevated levels mean risk

Note:

Your doctor may advise repeating the hCG test before coming to any conclusion or suggesting additional tests.



References

1. The classification, functions and clinical use of different isoforms of HCG; Oxford Academic
2. Association of Low Maternal Pregnancy-associated Plasma Protein A with Adverse Perinatal Outcome; National Institutes of Health
3. Nuchal translucency test; Medline Plus
4. Alpha-Fetoprotein (AFP) Test; Medline Plus
5. Placental synthesis of oestriol in Down's syndrome pregnancies; National Institutes of Health
6. Prenatal screening for Down's syndrome using inhibin-A as a serum marker; National Institutes of Health