GENETIC SCREENING TESTS

During your pregnancy, our office tries to offer the most up-to-date genetic testing options. Some of the laboratories that we contract for these tests may be considered out-of-network for your plan. We have agreements with these laboratories to provide you with discounted costs should your insurance not cover these tests 100%. Please review the following information and provide your insurance company with the test CPT codes should you have further questions.

1. Ultrascreen (first trimester screen) - This is the first screening test for Down syndrome, Trisomy 18, and Trisomy 13. This test is sent to NTD Laboratories, part of PerkinElmer Labs. If your insurance company denies the claim, you will receive an initial bill for the full amount and a letter stating an appeal will be filed with your insurance company. Do not pay this bill. Once NTD receives a decision from the insurance company, you will be billed for any remaining cost. If this amount exceeds $75, contact NTD Laboratories directly. The maximum cost for this test is $75.

2. Sequential (second trimester screen) - This is the second screening test for Down Syndrome and Trisomy 18 and tests for Open Neural Tube Defects. This test is also sent to NTD Laboratories. If your insurance company denies the claim, you will receive an initial bill for the full amount and a letter stating an appeal will be filed with your insurance company. Do not pay this bill. Once NTD receives a decision from the insurance company, you will be billed for any remaining cost. If this amount exceeds $90, contact NTD Laboratories directly. The maximum cost for this test is $90.

3. AFP Only (second trimester screen) – This is a test done alone or with the Ultrascreen in the second trimester for Open Neural Tube defect, such as spina bifida or anencephaly. This test is sent to LabCorp. The maximum cost for this test is $99.

4. AFP Tetra (second trimester screen) – This test is done in the second trimester alone or in combination with the Ultrascreen and NIPT. It evaluates your risk for Down Syndrome, Trisomy 18 and tests for Open Neural Tube Defects. This test is sent to LabCorp. Your insurance will be billed $419. If your insurance denies the claim please contact the office for assistance.

5. Cystic Fibrosis - This tests the genetic carrier status for Cystic Fibrosis (CF). We are currently using the laboratory test offered by Sequenom Labs. Your insurance will be billed $1600 for this test, but the maximum cost to you will only be $25.00. If you ever receive a bill for more than this, please contact Sequenom and they will amend the invoice to the reduced cost.

6. NIPT - This tests for Down Syndrome, Trisomy 18, Trisomy 13 and abnormalities associated with the sex chromosomes. We are currently using the MaterniT21 Plus test offered through Sequenom Labs. Insurance companies will only consider covering this test if you are of advanced maternal age (35 years or older at delivery), if you have an abnormal finding on another test or ultrasound, if you have a family history, or if you have had a prior pregnancy with an aneuploidy. If the test is not covered by your insurance company, you will be billed a maximum cost of $200 (in-network deductibles apply). If you do not qualify as above for the testing, you can also opt to get it done for a max OOP expense of $200.

7. NxGen - This is a genetic carrier screening test for genetically inherited disease, which can help determine your risk of having a child with a genetic disorder. This test will be billed to your insurance company as in-network genetic screening by NxGen Laboratories. Your individual insurance plan may or may not cover genetic screening. Your insurance company will be billed for the full cost of the test, however, you will only be charged $20 due to a patient assistance program. If you receive a bill for more than $20, please call NxGen first. If you have further questions, you may call our office.