

## CA Prenatal Screening Program

### Updates and Reminders:

- Please always include your NT credential ID on all documents that you send to the PNS Program or referring clinician's office. Risk assessments are based on practitioner-specific medians, so risks may be delayed if the PNS Program needs to retrieve missing information in the case.

### We're Online

Visit our [website](#) for instructions on how to enter NT data online; tools for calculating the valid gestational age window; and various guidance documents for NT practitioners.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/pns/pages/ntpractitioner.aspx>

### Questions or Comments?

Contact Jamie Matteson  
[Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov)  
(510) 307-8597

# NT Practitioner Bulletin

## Online Data Submission for Instant First Trimester Risk Assessment

While there are several methods for submitting NT exam data to the California Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program, many practitioners find online data submission to be the most convenient. This method not only reduces the risk of data transcription errors and ensures that your data is received by our Program in a timely manner, but it also allows practitioners to instantly access their patients' First Trimester Prenatal Screening risk assessments.

You may be a good candidate for submitting NT exam data online if :

- You are able to schedule your patients about one week after their First Trimester PNS Program blood draw.
- You have access to the Test Request Form (TRF) number or the PNS Program accession number, which can usually be obtained from the referring clinician's office.
- You have regular access to a computer (can be multiple computers at multiple locations).

To enter your NT exam data online, you must setup a Screening Information System (SIS) account. In order to setup a SIS account, please:

- Complete the SIS NT Online Training, which is available on our [website](#). The six training modules usually take about 45 minutes to complete. Once you have read through all of the modules, email [Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov) to confirm that you have completed the training.
- Complete the [NT Oath of Confidentiality](#) and fax it to (510) 412-1551, or scan and email it to [Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Jamie.Matteson@cdph.ca.gov).

After the PNS Program receives the required documentation, a SIS account can usually be setup within one business day.

### Data Submission Reminder

Calling or faxing the PNS Case Coordination Center with NT exam data should only be done for special cases. If you are regularly unable to submit data online or on the TRF, please contact our Program so that we can discuss options for submitting NT exam data that may work for your patient flow.

## Risk of Selected Structural Abnormalities in Infants after Increased Nuchal Translucency Measurement (Baer et al., 2014)

Fetuses with increased nuchal translucency (NT) measurement have long been known to have an elevated risk of chromosome and cardiac abnormalities. In a recent examination of NT measurements and birth outcomes for 75,899 California Prenatal Screening Program participants, Baer et al. found that those with a fetal NT measurement  $\geq$  95th percentile or NT  $\geq$  3.5 mm were also at greater risk of having a non-cardiac major structural birth defect as compared to infants with NT < 90th percentile.

Read the complete article in the December 2014 issue of [American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology](#):

Baer RJ, Norton ME, Shaw GM, et al. Risk of selected structural abnormalities in infants after increased nuchal translucency measurement. *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 2014;211:675.e1-19.