

My California Prenatal Screening Test Came Back Positive. What Now?

Getting a result that says your developing baby has a risk for a [birth defect](#) may be scary. But [California has a program](#) to help women get the [genetic counseling](#) and additional testing they might need.

A screen positive result does not always mean the baby is affected.

From a [screening test](#), it is not possible to be 100% sure if the baby is affected.

Only [prenatal diagnosis](#) ([amniocentesis](#) or [CVS](#)) can tell you for sure.

Please remember that most pregnancies with screen positive results from the California prenatal screening test turn out OK.

Screen positive simply means a high enough risk to consider additional testing.

Genetic counseling can help you better understand your result.

You may be offered additional testing as well. These services will be covered by the California Prenatal Screening Program at a [State-approved Prenatal Diagnosis Center](#).

Specific services covered and other options depend on the type of screen positive result.

For First Trimester Screen Positive result:

- [Genetic Counseling](#)
 - [CVS](#) or [cell-free DNA](#) (cfDNA)
- or*
- Second trimester blood draw for [Integrated screening](#)

For Large NT Screen Positive result:

- Genetic Counseling
 - CVS or cfDNA in first trimester
- or*
- [Ultrasound](#) and [amniocentesis](#) in second trimester

For cfDNA Screen Positive result after any California screen positive result:

- Genetic Counseling
- CVS if seen in first trimester
- Ultrasound and amniocentesis if seen in second trimester

For second trimester or Integrated screen positive result:

- Genetic Counseling
- Ultrasound
- Amniocentesis or cfDNA

Did you know?

Even if you talk with a genetic counselor, you can still opt in or out of any further testing.

Different people need different things when they receive a Screen Positive result. They may need different kinds of information, too. Speaking with a genetic counselor can help to address your

own individual concerns.