Procedure undertaken for Prenatal Screening

Upon the pregnant woman's visit to her gynaecologist between the 9th and the 13th week of gestation (between the 9th and 10th week is preferable) a sample of her blood is collected and a special form for prenatal testing is completed. These are sent together to the Center for Preventive Paediatrics.

The Center's clinical lab measures two biochemical markers present in the maternal blood and sends out the results to the referring gynecologist who in turn ensures the woman has scheduled an appointment for the fetal ultrasound measurements within the correct time period.

Ultrasound measurements for fetal markers are carried out by Fetal Medicine Foundation-UK accredited professionals within the 11th and 13th week of gestation. The reliability of this prenatal screening test is dictated by the timeframes indicated and so it is of paramount importance that they are adhered to.

The ultrasound marker findings are combined with the biochemical marker results with the use of a specialized program which gives a numerical risk carried by the pregnancy for specific chromosomal abnormalities. The results are forwarded to the referring gynaecologist who provides the pregnant woman with the appropriate genetic counselling and guidance according to their risk outcome.

Summary of steps

- Appointment with gynaecologist between 9th and 13th week of gestation
- Collection of maternal blood sample and same day forwarding to the Center for Preventive Paediatrics.
- Blood measured for maternal biochemical markers by the Center and results forwarded to referring gynaecologist
- Ultrasound measurements for fetal markers made between the 11th and 13th week of gestation
- Numerical risk assessment given for chromosomal abnormalities (Trisomies 21,18 & 13).

Center for Preventive Paediatrics
12, Stratigou Makriyianni Street
P.O Box 56617, Limassol 3309
Tel: 25 818787, Fax: 25 346894
Email: info@cpp.org.cy