

**Medical Genetics**  
**Wake Forest University School of Medicine**  
**Winston Salem NC**

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**Test: Prenatal Amniotic Fluid Chromosome Analysis**

**Purpose of Test:** To identify chromosome abnormalities detectable by routine cytogenetic analysis. This includes: translocations, deletions, duplications, inversions, and numerical aberrations.

**Required Information:** Please provide indications (ICD-9) for testing on our referral form with each specimen. Accurate testing and interpretation may otherwise be compromised.

**Amniotic Fluid**

- Optimum timing for specimen collection is during the 15th-18th weeks of gestation.
- Specimens collected between 13 weeks to 38 weeks of gestation are also accepted but potentially have culturing limitations.
- Draw and discard the first 2 mL of amniotic fluid in a sterile syringe.
- Draw an additional 20-25 mL of amniotic fluid and send this to the laboratory in an appropriate container.
- We **strongly** recommend Allegiance amniocentesis trays distributed by McKesson General Medical [Catalogue #02640711]. When using an Allegiance amniocentesis kit, transfer the amniotic fluid into the provided transport containers (2 orange screw-capped, sterile 15-mL centrifuge tubes).
- Label containers with patient's name.
- Unavoidably, about >1% of specimens are not viable. Bloody specimens are undesirable and may cause a delay in reporting. If the specimen does not grow in culture, you will be notified within 7 days of receipt.

**Store and Ship Specimen at Room Temperature:**

**Reflex Test:** AF screening  
**Adjunct Tests:** FISH for prenatal aneuploidy screening (13, 18, 21, X, Y)  
No additional specimen is required.  
**Turn Around Time:** 6-10 days

*We will telephone you with the final chromosome report prior to sending the report. AFP reports are sent out within a day of final report. If the AFP is elevated, an AchE analysis is performed and the referring physician is notified.*

**CPT Code Information:**

88235 AF/CVS tissue culture  
88269 AF *in situ*; 6-12 colonies, 2 karyotypes, GTG  
88280 Additional karyotypes, each study  
88285 Additional cells counted, each study