**Welcome to *Northwestern Women’s Health Associates* for your prenatal care.**

**Phone: (312) 440-9400 Fax: (312) 440-0423**

**Genetic Screening Options**

We deliver at *Prentice Women’s Hospital*: 250 E. Superior St. Chicago IL 60611. (312) 472-0800.

**GENETIC CARRIER SCREENING**

*Healthy people can still be carriers for genetic diseases that can be passed on to your baby. Over 80% of babies born with genetic diseases have no known family history.*

* **Selective screening:** we will recommend tests based on your family’s history and countries of origin.
* **Universal screening (Family Prep Screen):** check your carrier status of over 100 diseases.

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**DOWN SYNDROME TESTING**



* **Combined first and second trimester (stepwise) tests:** this stepwise test combines the results of bloodwork taken at 12 weeks and 16 weeks, as well as an ultrasound done at 12 weeks. A preliminary result is given after the 12-week tests are done. *This test detects 85% of Down syndrome pregnancies.*
* **Ariosa’s “Harmony” Cell-free DNA test: t**his screening test analyzes fragments of the baby’s DNA that reach your bloodstream. This test is usually covered by insurance for women age 35+ because they have the highest individual risk for a child with Down Syndrome. Done as early as 10-12 weeks. *This test detects over 99% of Down syndrome pregnancies, and can also identify gender.*
* **Chorionic villus sampling (CVS):** the baby’s DNA is directly analyzed by sampling the placenta, using a very thin needle through the belly or vagina. Done after 10 weeks of pregnancy. *This test is considered invasive and has a very low miscarriage risk.*
* **Amniocentesis:** the baby’s DNA is directly analyzed by sampling the fluid around the baby, using a very thin needle through the belly. Done after 15 weeks of pregnancy. *This test is considered invasive and has a very low miscarriage risk.*