Overview

Useful For
Prenatal diagnosis of chromosome abnormalities, including aneuploidy (ie, trisomy or monosomy) and balanced rearrangements

Genetics Test Information
Cultures from this specimen will be discarded 10 days after all cytogenetic test results have been reported. If further testing is desired, call the laboratory at 507-284-1668.

Reflex Tests

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<th>Reporting Name</th>
<th>Available Separately</th>
<th>Always Performed</th>
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<td>_ML15</td>
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Testing Algorithm
This test includes a charge for cell culture of fresh specimens and professional interpretation of results. Analysis charges will be incurred for total work performed, and generally include 2 banded karyograms and the analysis of 20 metaphase cells. If no metaphase cells are available for analysis, no analysis charges will be incurred. If additional analysis work is required, additional charges may be incurred.

The following algorithms are available in Special Instructions:
- Prenatal Aneuploidy Screening and Diagnostic Testing Options
- High-Risk Pregnancy Based on Abnormal Fetal Malformations: Laboratory Testing Algorithm

Special Instructions
- Informed Consent for Genetic Testing
- High-Risk Pregnancy Based on Abnormal Fetal Malformations: Laboratory Testing Algorithm
- Prenatal Aneuploidy Screening and Diagnostic Testing Options
- Informed Consent for Genetic Testing (Spanish)

Method Name
Cell Culture Followed by Chromosome Analysis

NY State Available
Yes
Specimen

Specimen Type
Amniotic Fld

Advisory Information
Portions of the specimen may be used for other tests such as measuring markers for neural tube defects (eg, AFPA / Alpha-Fetoprotein, Amniotic Fluid), molecular genetic testing, biochemical testing, and FISH testing (including PADF / Prenatal Aneuploidy Detection, FISH). If additional molecular genetic or biochemical genetic testing is needed, order CULAF / Amniotic Fluid Culture/Genetic Testing so that amniocyte cultures may be set up specifically for the use in these tests.

Shipping Instructions
Advise Express Mail or equivalent if not on courier service.

Necessary Information
Provide a reason for referral and gestational age with each specimen, and verify the specimen source. The laboratory will not reject testing if this information is not provided, but appropriate testing and interpretation may be compromised or delayed.

Specimen Required
Supplies: Refrigerate/Ambient Mailer, 5 lb (T329)

Specimen Type: Amniotic fluid

Submission Container/Tube: Centrifuge tube

Specimen Volume: 20-25 mL

Collection Instructions:
1. Optimal timing for specimen collection is during 14 to 18 weeks of gestation, but specimens collected at other weeks of gestation are also accepted.

2. Discard the first 2 mL of amniotic fluid.

3. Place the tubes in a Refrigerate/Ambient Mailer, 5 lb (T329).

4. Fill remaining space with packing material.

Additional Information:
1. Unavoidably, about 1% to 2% of mailed-in specimens are not viable.

2. If the specimen does not grow in culture, you will be notified within 7 days of receipt.

3. Bloody specimens are undesirable.

Supplies: Refrigerate/Ambient Mailer, 5 lb (T329)
Specimen Type: Fetal body fluid

Container/Tube: Sterile tube

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Place the tubes in a Refrigerate/Ambient Mailer, 5 lb (T329).

2. Fill remaining space with packing material.

Additional Information:

1. If the specimen does not grow in culture, you will be notified within 7 days of receipt.

2. Clearly indicate on tube and paperwork that specimen is fetal body fluid.

Forms

New York Clients-Informed consent is required. Document on the request form or electronic order that a copy is on file. The following documents are available in Special Instructions:

- Informed Consent for Genetic Testing (T576)
- Informed Consent for Genetic Testing-Spanish (T826)

Specimen Minimum Volume

Amniotic Fluid: 12 mL; Fetal Body Fluid: NA; If ordering in conjunction with other testing: If ordered with PADF: 14 mL, with CMAP: 24 mL, with PADF and CMAP: 26 mL

Reject Due To

No specimen should be rejected.

Specimen Stability Information

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<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amniotic Fld</td>
<td>Refrigerated (preferred)</td>
<td>Ambient</td>
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</table>

Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information

Chromosome analysis for prenatal diagnosis is appropriate in pregnancies with abnormal maternal screening, advanced maternal age, and features suggestive of or concerns for aneuploidy syndromes, including Down syndrome, Turner syndrome, Klinefelter syndrome, trisomy 13 syndrome, and trisomy 18 syndrome.

Chromosomal abnormalities are the cause of a wide range of disorders associated with birth defects and congenital diseases. Many of these disorders can be diagnosed prenatally by analysis of amniocytes. This method permits
Test Definition: CHRAF
Chromosomes, Amniotic Fluid

A chromosomal microarray (CMAP / Chromosomal Microarray, Prenatal, Amniotic Fluid/Chorionic Villus Sampling) is recommended, rather than chromosomal analysis, to detect clinically relevant gains or losses of chromosomal material in pregnancies with 1 or more major structural abnormalities. Chromosomal microarray can also be considered, rather than chromosome analysis, for patients undergoing invasive prenatal diagnostic testing with a structurally normal fetus.

Reference Values
An interpretative report will be provided.

Interpretation
Cytogenetic studies on amniotic fluid are considered nearly 100% accurate for the detection of large fetal chromosome abnormalities. However, subtle or cryptic abnormalities involving microdeletions usually can be detected only with the use of targeted FISH testing.

Approximately 3% of amniotic fluid specimens analyzed are found to have chromosome abnormalities. Some of these chromosome abnormalities are balanced and may not be associated with birth defects.

A normal karyotype does not rule out the possibility of birth defects, such as those caused by submicroscopic cytogenetic abnormalities, molecular mutations, and other environmental factors (ie, teratogen exposure). For these reasons, clinicians should inform their patients of the technical limitations of chromosome analysis prior to performing the amniocentesis.

It is recommended that a qualified professional in Medical Genetics communicate all results to the patient.

Cautions
Interfering factors:

- Improper syringes or transport vessels may be unsuitable to amniotic cells. Amniotic fluid should not be exposed to the syringe plunger tip for longer than a few seconds and fluid should be transferred to a transport (centrifuge) tube as soon as possible following collection.

- Transport time should not exceed 2 days.

- A bloody specimen may interfere with attempts to culture cells and contamination by maternal cells may cause interpretive problems.

- Inadequate amount of fluid may not permit adequate analysis.

- Improper packaging may result in broken, leaky, and contaminated specimen during transport.

- Exposure of the specimen to temperature extremes (freezing or >30 degrees C) may kill cells and severely interferes with attempts to culture cells.

Clinical Reference


Performance

Method Description
The specimen is centrifuged and the cell pellet is mixed with culture media, then split into 6 primary culture dishes and a T-flask to establish cultures. Cells are harvested after 5 to 7 days. In the harvest process, the cells are exposed to ethidium bromide, colcemid, and hypotonic solution, and fixed with glacial acetic acid and methanol. Metaphase cells are dropped onto microscope slides and are routinely stained by G-banding, but other staining methods may be employed as needed. Fifteen metaphases from 15 colonies and 3 or more primary cultures usually are examined. In cases where true mosaicism is suspected, up to 30 colonies and up to 6 primary cultures may be analyzed. Minimal evidence for the presence of an abnormality is defined as 2 or more metaphases with the same structural abnormality, chromosome gain (trisomy), or 3 or more metaphases lacking the same chromosome. Five or more digitized images of metaphases are stored in computer-based imaging systems and karyograms are prepared from 2 or more representative metaphases.(Chang HC, Jones OW: Amniocentesis: cell culture of human amniotic fluid in a hormone supplement. Cold Springs Harb Conf Cell Prolif 1982;9:1187-1192; Hsu LY, Perlis TE: United States survey on chromosome mosaicism and pseudomosaicism in prenatal diagnosis. Prenat Diagn 1984;4:97-130; Peakman DC, Moreton MF, Corn BJ, Robinson A: Chromosomal mosaicism in amniotic fluid cell cultures. Am J Hum Genet 1979;31:149-155; Spurbeck JL, Carlson RO, Allen JE, Dewald GW: Culturing and robotic harvesting of bone marrow, lymph nodes, peripheral blood, fibroblasts, and solid tumors with in situ techniques. Cancer Genet Cytogenet 1988;32:59-66)

PDF Report
No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed
Samples processed Monday through Sunday. Results reported Monday through Friday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m., CST.

Analytic Time
10 days

Maximum Laboratory Time
11 days

Specimen Retention Time
Any remaining supernatant or whole fluid aliquots are discarded 14 days after results are reported.

Performing Laboratory Location
Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees
- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact Customer Service.
**Test Definition: CHRAF**

**Chromosomes, Amniotic Fluid**

**Test Classification**
This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**CPT Code Information**
88235, 88291-Tissue culture for amniotic fluid or chorionic villus cells, Interpretation and report

88269 w/modifier 52-Chromosome analysis, in situ for amniotic fluid cells, <6 colonies, 1 karyotype with banding (if appropriate)

88269-Chromosome analysis, in situ for amniotic fluid cells, 6 or greater colonies, 1 karyotype with banding (if appropriate)

88267, 88285-Chromosome analysis, amniotic fluid or chorionic villus, greater than 15 cells, 1 karyotype with banding (if appropriate)

88267 w/modifier 52-Chromosome analysis, amniotic fluid or chorionic villus, <15 cells, 1 karyotype with banding (if appropriate)

**LOINC® Information**

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