

QUANTITATIVE FLUORESCENCE PCR (QF-PCR) FACT SHEET FOR THE REFERRING DOCTOR

What is QF-PCR?

- A laboratory technique that uses DNA obtained from the amniotic fluid and analyzes it for evidence of **trisomies 13, 18 and 21** by dosage

What are the limitations of QF-PCR?

- Although this test has a high accuracy, it is not 100% sensitive or specific
- In rare cases, results may not be informative for one or more of the chromosomes analyzed

Are QF-PCR results available for every amniocentesis performed?

- Some situations can lead to QF-PCR test failures including bloody amniotic fluid samples or lack of usable DNA products
- QF-PCR failure **does not** indicate a higher likelihood of an abnormal final result

What is the turnaround time?

- Approximately 3-4 business days from the time of the procedure

What is the difference between QF-PCR and a full chromosome analysis?

- QF-PCR provides information solely regarding dosage of chromosomes 13, 18 and 21
- A chromosome analysis will examine the complete chromosome set

When will the final chromosome analysis be available?

- Approximately 2 weeks following the QF-PCR result
- These results will be faxed directly to your office for you to communicate with your patient

****PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT 905-813-4104 WITH ANY QUESTIONS****

The following are references, should you wish to understand more about the QF-PCR technique:

1. Rapid prenatal diagnosis by QF-PCR: evaluation of 30,000 consecutive clinical samples and future applications. Cirigliano *et al.* 2006 Ann NY Acad Sci 1075: 288-298.
2. Validation of QF-PCR for prenatal aneuploidy screening in the United States. Brown *et al.* 2006 Prenat Diagn 26: 1068-74.
3. Prenatal diagnosis by rapid aneuploidy detection and karyotyping: a prospective study of the role of ultrasound in 1589 second trimester amniocenteses. Leung *et al.* 2004 Prenat Diagn 24: 790-5.
4. Rapid prenatal diagnosis of common chromosome aneuploidies by QF-PCR – Assessment on 18,000 consecutive clinical sample. Cirigliano *et al.* 2004 Mol Hum Reprod 10: 839-46.