

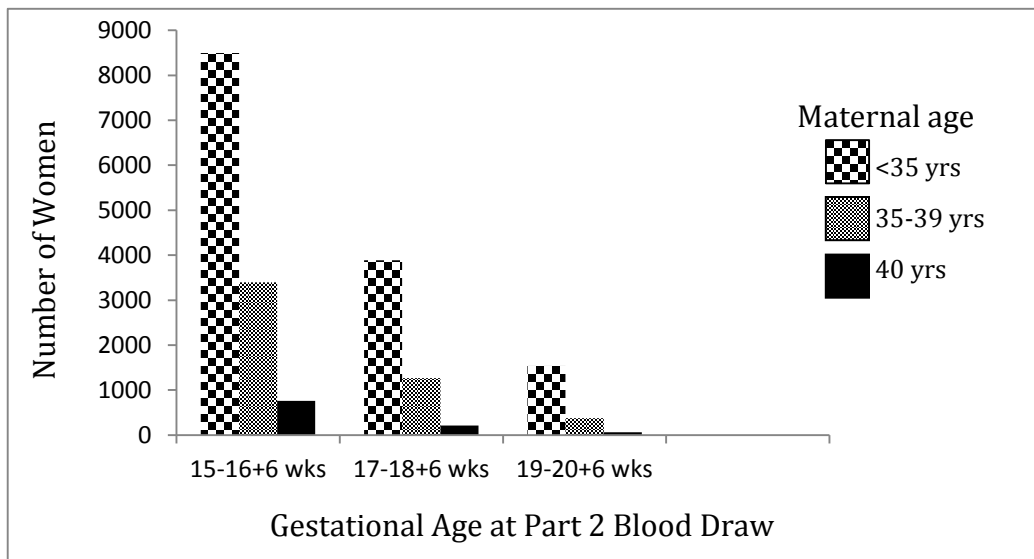


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A NEED TO OPTIMIZE THE TIME OF THE SECOND BLOOD DRAW FOR WOMEN HAVING SIPS OR IPS

Each year, approximately 25,000 BC women opt for screening for Down syndrome (trisomy 21), trisomy 18 and trisomy 13. Of these women, 20,000 have integrated screening (SIPS/IPS), and 5% of those will have a positive screen. They are currently offered the option of amniocentesis or self-pay NIPT. Given the turn-around time for results of these tests, it is imperative that the second blood draw be done as early as possible, **ideally between 15 weeks 2 days and 16 weeks 6 days**.

Review of year 2013 utilization data indicates that only 64% of women have their second blood test drawn within the ideal time frame. This means that 7000 women had their blood drawn late - after 17 weeks gestation.



To allow women who will screen positive to access further diagnostic testing earlier, **all women should be given specific instructions to go for their second blood draw for SIPS/IPS at 15 weeks 2 days (or as early as possible after that date) and before 16 weeks 6 days**. The test can be performed as late as 20 weeks 6 days but this late gestational age compromises patient care by limiting further available options. Download the updated serum lab requisition that indicates best timing for collection. www.bcprenatalscreening.ca

