KEY CHANGES TO THE GUIDELINE AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- Incorporation of funded NIPT in the screening process
  - New web page bcprenatalscreening.ca/NIPT with information and lab requisitions (both funded and self-pay)
- Recommendations for pregnancies with soft markers on detailed ultrasound
- If patient chooses to have self-pay NIPT, an NT ultrasound and SIPS/IPS is not indicated
- Detailed ultrasound (18 – 20 weeks) is the best screen for Neural Tube Defect for those patients who choose to have self-pay NIPT, or no screening for Down syndrome

TO IMPROVE SCREENING PROCESS, TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Given the turn-around time for SIPS/IPS/Quad results, it is imperative that the second blood draw (Part 2) be done as early as possible, ideally between 15 weeks 2 days and 16 weeks 6 days. This will allow maximum decision-making time for your patient if results are positive. Current turn-around-time for NIPT results is 9 days with 2% of patients needing a redraw.

Eligibility criteria for funded NIPT:

1. Has received a positive screen result from SIPS, IPS, or Quad for Down syndrome or trisomy 18 (authorization code provided by C&W prenatal screening lab)
2. Has had a previous pregnancy with trisomy 21, 18, or 13*
3. Trisomy 21 / 18 / 13 risk greater than 1/300 based on serum screening result & ultrasound marker(s) *

* A referral to Medical Genetics (Vancouver or Victoria) is required for #2 and #3 (authorization code provided by Med Gen)

Note requirements for laboratory requisitions for screening (online at bcprenatalscreening.ca):

- SIPS/IPS/Quad – Patients MUST bring the completed requisition(s) with them to any local blood collection facility (e.g., Hospital Outpatient Labs or local LifeLabs/BC Bio community labs)
- Funded NIPT – Both the Patient and Ordering Provider MUST sign the Dynacare Harmony requisition to prevent delays in sample processing. (List of NIPT-specific collection sites at bcprenatalscreening.ca/NIPT)

Go to our website bcprenatalscreening.ca to download or order:

- Updated Guideline for Prenatal Genetic Screening
- Patient pamphlets “Prenatal Genetic Screening – It’s your choice” in multiple languages
- Screen positive info sheets “What does it mean and what do I do now?” in multiple languages
- (NEW) Decision Aid for Patients. A step-by-step tool to help patients think about their options and facilitate informed decision-making “Should I do screening, or should I not?”
- (NEW) Practice Resource for Health Care Providers to manage pregnancies diagnosed with Down syndrome.