


Amniocentesis is a test you may be offered during pregnancy to check if your baby has a genetic or chromosomal condition, such as Down's syndrome, Edwards' syndrome or Patau's syndrome. It involves removing and testing a small sample of cells from amniotic fluid, the fluid that surrounds the unborn baby in the womb (uterus). When amniocentesis is offered, Amniocentesis is not offered to all pregnant women. It's only offered if there's a higher chance your baby could have a genetic condition. This could be because Amniocentesis can give doctors essential information about the health of your fetus. Learn more from WebMD about the risks and benefits of this procedure. Pregnancy and Amniocentesis. In this Article. In this Article. In this Article. What Is Amniocentesis? Why Is an Amniocentesis Performed? When Is Amniocentesis Performed?