

28 July 2025

Dear Colleague,

IMPORTANT: CHANGE TO TEST ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
For: Fetus with a likely chromosomal abnormality (R22)

NHSE genetic laboratories are required to deliver testing according to the National Genomic Test Directory <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-genomic-test-directories/>. The latest version of the Test Directory has updated the eligibility criteria for:

R22: Fetus with a likely chromosomal abnormality

This testing is now available for death or still birth from **24 weeks** (a change from the previously stated third trimester).

The revised eligibility criteria are:

- ongoing pregnancies OR
- where there has been fetal loss, termination of pregnancy or miscarriage, accompanied by additional features suggestive of chromosome abnormality OR
- death or still birth from 24 weeks and in the absence of other likely causes

These changes will be implemented by the North East and Yorkshire GLH with immediate effect.

The referral information provided **must** state how the patient meets the testing criteria.

If the patient does not meet the criteria for testing or insufficient clinical information is provided the test request will be rejected.

All samples must be accompanied by a laboratory request form, which can be downloaded here:
<https://ney-genomics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/411.030-Prenatal-form-v2.0web.pdf>

If you have any questions regarding this change in service, please do not hesitate to contact your local genetics laboratory:

Newcastle Genetics Laboratory: Shaun Haigh shaun.haigh@nhs.net

Leeds Genetics Laboratory: Louis Casey louis.casey@nhs.net

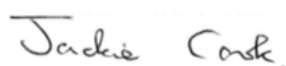
Sheffield Genetic Diagnostic Service: Emma Shearing emma.shearing@nhs.net

Yours faithfully,



Miranda Durkie

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Dr Jackie Cook

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