

High-Risk Tests and Treatments

Geisinger's Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialists have cared for thousands of high-risk moms and developing babies. We provide the region's most advanced testing and treatment, including:

Testing and monitoring of pregnant mothers who have:

- heart problems — whether you've been diagnosed with heart problems, are currently on medication, or have noticed a rapid heartbeat or other unusual signs
- diabetes — whether you had diabetes before, or develop it during pregnancy (gestational diabetes)
- clotting disorder — we help you manage your medications
- anemia (low iron count in the blood) — we monitor your blood levels and offer nutritional guidance

Consulting and testing for the developing baby:

- Genetic counseling — Our genetic counselor will review family history, arrange any necessary testing and coordinate care for you as well as your unborn baby
- Targeted ultrasound — an external monitor focuses on specific areas of the baby to rule out abnormalities
- CVS (Chorionic villus sampling) — a test done early in pregnancy that examines internal tissue from the mother to identify certain problems in the unborn baby
- Quadruple screening — a blood test done at four months of pregnancy that tests levels of chemicals and hormones in the mother
- Amniocentesis — a test done mid-pregnancy to analyze the liquid (amniotic fluid) surrounding the baby in order to detect problems
- Biophysical profile (BPP) — a non-stress test that uses an external monitor to measure the developing baby's heart rate. It may also include an ultrasound.

Procedures performed by Geisinger on the unborn baby:

- Amnio infusion — a procedure that increases the fluid around the baby when testing determines that there is not enough
- Amnio reduction — a procedure that eliminates excess fluid around the baby
- Fetal blood transfusion — if anemia is discovered in the developing baby, Geisinger specialists can perform a transfusion