



## The Perth Radiological Clinic Difference

- > a network of conveniently located community and hospital based locations
- > caring, helpful and professional staff
- > state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment
- > over 60 specialist radiologists, trained to provide you with accurate and reliable results
- > world class digital networking between clinics provides the benefits of second opinions from specialist radiologists, no matter which clinic you attend.

You can now request an appointment online via our website and our staff will call you back to confirm your appointment, please visit our website:

[www.perthradclinic.com.au](http://www.perthradclinic.com.au)

An appointment has been made for you

Clinic \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



*Leaders in Medical Imaging*  
[www.perthradclinic.com.au](http://www.perthradclinic.com.au)

A GUIDE FOR PATIENTS

## Nuchal Translucency Test

For information regarding your appointment,  
please see the back of this leaflet.

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# What is a Nuchal Translucency Test?

The Nuchal Translucency Test is a highly skilled, low risk test, which is the most sensitive non-invasive means currently available to detect Down Syndrome. It involves two tests, a blood test and an ultrasound. Down Syndrome screening tests do not provide a diagnosis, but instead group women into low risk or high risk groups. Women at high risk are offered further tests.

## What is Nuchal Translucency?

The Nuchal Translucency is the thickness of the soft tissues at the back of the neck. This is measured during an Ultrasound examination and together with a blood test, is used to assess the risk of a fetal anomaly.

## Are there any side-effects?

No, the Nuchal Translucency Test is an examination performed using Ultrasound, and presents no risk to mother or fetus. X-rays are not utilised in this examination.

## What preparation is required?

You are required to drink 750 mls of water 60 minutes before your examination commences and not empty your bladder. This is done to fill your bladder, which will allow optimum visualisation of the fetus.

## What is involved?

There are two parts involved in the Nuchal Translucency Test:

1. An Ultrasound examination which we perform at Perth Radiological Clinic between 11 weeks 3 days and 13 weeks 6 days (preferably 12-13 weeks) gestation. During the Ultrasound examination the Nuchal Translucency is measured. This will take approximately 30 minutes.
2. A blood test. Perth Radiological does not organise for the blood samples to be taken for this test. This should be organised by your referring doctor. Please ensure your doctor gives you a Pathology request form for this particular blood test and notes on this form where you will be having your Ultrasound. This blood test can be performed as early as 8 weeks but ideally at 10 weeks.

## What happens after the test?

The blood sample results are forwarded from the Pathology laboratory to Perth Radiological Clinic, and together with the results from the Ultrasound examination are then processed in our computer which has a specific state-of-the-art diagnostic programme for fetal risk assessment. The results are then forwarded to your referring Doctor.

A further ultrasound should be performed at 19-20 weeks to examine the baby's anatomy in more detail.



## How do I make an appointment?

- > Contact your nearest Perth Radiological Clinic. (For information on all of our clinic locations please visit our website. [www.perthraddclinic.com.au](http://www.perthraddclinic.com.au))
- > Advise the reception staff that you require an Ultrasound examination with a Nuchal Translucency Test.
- > You will be booked for when you are between 11 weeks 3 days and 13 weeks 6 days pregnant.
- > Please bring your blood test results with you if you have them. This should have been performed prior to your ultrasound.
- > If you are unable to attend an appointment please advise Perth Radiological Clinic as soon as possible.

Please bring any previous imaging with you on the day of your examination. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask us!