

DEACTIVATION OF MATERNAL SERUM TESTING (TRIPLE SCREEN)

Effective December 31, 2018, TriCore Reference Laboratories will deactivate the Alpha Fetoprotein, Maternal Serum 3 Screen, (Test Code AFPMM3), also known as the Triple Screen. This screen is no longer considered the standard-of-care and is deemed to be a poorer prenatal screening test compared to other commonly available options.

Consistent with current guidelines, TriCore recommends a testing strategy that incorporates both first and second trimester screening protocols, such as the Sequential or Integrated tests, for patients who present in the first trimester and who opt for biochemical screening. For those who present in the second trimester, the Quad Screen (Test Code AFPMM4) is the preferred biochemical test.

TRICORE CODE NEW	NAME
1STSCR	FIRST TRIMESTER SCREEN
1STSEQ	FIRST TRIMESTER SEQUENTIAL SCREEN
2NDSEQ	SECOND TRIMESTER SEQUENTIAL SCREEN
1STINT	FIRST TRIMESTER INTEGRATED SCREEN
2NDINT	SECOND TRIMESTER INTEGRATED SCREEN

Non-invasive prenatal screening by cell-free DNA testing is also available (Test Code NIPT) and can be performed any time after nine weeks of gestation.

This adjustment will allow us to continue to provide the high quality service you require. Thank you and we look forward to our continued partnership.