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TESTS PERFORMED DURING PREGNANCY

12 Weeks: Prenatal Profile- Blood Work and Gen Probe Testing

On your 12 week visit, you will be given an order for your Prenatal Profile to be drawn at a lab approved by your insurance. Also, you will be given an order to do your Gen Probe test. It will test for chlamydia and gonorrhea. You will need to have not emptied your bladder for one hour before giving a urine sample. Bring these orders to a lab approved by your insurance. You will need to have these tests done before your 16 week visit.

20 Weeks: 50 gram Glucose Tolerance Test

On your 20 week visit, you will have the oral glucose tolerance test. This test measures the body's ability to metabolize sugar or clear it out of the bloodstream. The test is used to diagnose gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy). You will be given 50 grams of sugar in the form of a drink. You should NOT come fasting, as the test should be a sample of your body on any given day. After you are given the 50 grams of sugar to drink, you cannot eat or drink anything for one hour. After one hour, we will do a finger stick to test your blood sugar level. Anything less than 140 is a passing score. If your level exceeds 140, then we will send you for further testing to aid in the diagnosis of gestational diabetes.

28 Weeks: Hemoglobin, Rhogam, and TDAP

On your 28 week visit, we will perform a simple finger stick in the office to check your hemoglobin level, or the amount of iron in your blood. Many women become iron deficient during pregnancy. It can lead to fatigue and sluggishness. If your level is below 12, we will prescribe an iron supplement and provide you with a list of iron rich foods.

Also on your 28 week visit, if you have a negative blood type, you will be given an order for a Rhogam injection, which you will need to schedule at the hospital. Make sure you are given a copy of your lab results with your blood type. Bring this order and your lab results to the hospital within a week of receiving this order.

If you have not received one in the past two years, you will be given an order for a TDAP immunization that you should bring to the pharmacy of your choice. This is a booster immunization for tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis/ whooping cough. This vaccine is recommended for all patients in the third trimester of pregnancy for the protection of the baby after delivery.

36 Weeks: Group B Beta Strep Swab

Group B Beta Strep, also known as Beta Strep or GBS is a bacteria that can live within humans. About 25% of women are carriers of this bacteria and do not even know it. They do not have any feelings of illness and are not sick. It is not a sexually transmitted disease, so you do not have to worry about your husband or partner getting it. The risk to your baby comes at birth. A vaginal swab will be done at 36 weeks for this bacteria. If you test positive, you will be treated with antibiotics during labor to protect your baby.

If you have any questions regarding any of the tests described above, please feel free to ask questions at the time of your appointments.

****If you think that you are in labor or have an emergency after hours or over the weekend, please go to the hospital. If you wish to speak to someone first, call the office and press 0. This will connect you to the answering service who will contact the on call physician.**