NEXT BIOSCIENCES

POCScreen
Products of Conception Screening

Identifying the potential genetic causes of a miscarriage

Up to one in four pregnancies may end in an early loss or miscarriage[1]; this is more common than many people are aware of. Experiencing a pregnancy loss can be an emotionally challenging time. During this difficult journey, seeking answers, understanding, and closure may provide comfort.

Products of Conception Screening, often referred to as POCScreen, is a test that can **provide information about the chromosomal factors that may have contributed to the loss.** It is an informative step that can provide valuable insights, help you understand the cause of the loss, and assist in future reproductive planning.

What is a chromosomal abnormality?

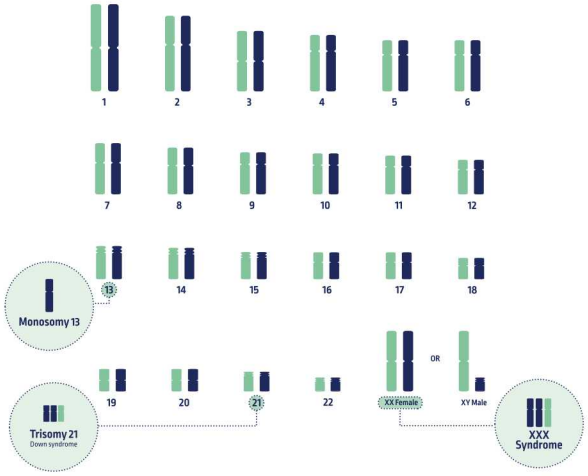
Humans usually have 23 pairs of chromosomes (46 in total) within almost every cell in our body. One chromosome of each pair comes from our mother, and the other from our father. The first chromosome pairs are labelled 1-22. The last pair of these chromosomes are the sex chromosomes, which determine sex. Females usually have two X chromosomes, and males usually have an X and a Y chromosome. **A change in the number of chromosomes can lead to a change in development, which may result in a miscarriage.**

What is POCScreen?

More than half of first-trimester miscarriages are caused by chromosomal abnormalities[1].

POCScreen can detect extra copies of a chromosome called trisomy (three copies), missing copies of a chromosome called monosomy (only one copy), as well as duplications and deletions (extra or missing pieces of chromosomes). **Any changes to the normal chromosome make-up can result in a miscarriage.**

The POCScreen test is done on the tissue from the miscarriage to evaluate the presence of abnormal chromosome numbers, and to determine if a chromosomal abnormality was the reason for the loss.



Why POCScreen?

POCScreen results enable informed discussions with healthcare professionals, support groups, or counsellors who can provide guidance and emotional support. In addition, information obtained from a POCScreen test enables accurate reproductive counselling and allows your healthcare provider to discuss a personalised plan going forward.

Who should use POCScreen?

Couples who have suffered a pregnancy loss. Specifically, those who have had **recurrent miscarriages.**

***If you are experiencing a pregnancy loss, it is important to consult with your healthcare provider regarding the available options for screening tests that may be relevant to you.*

How POCScreen works

A
Healthcare provider to complete Test Requisition Form (TRF)

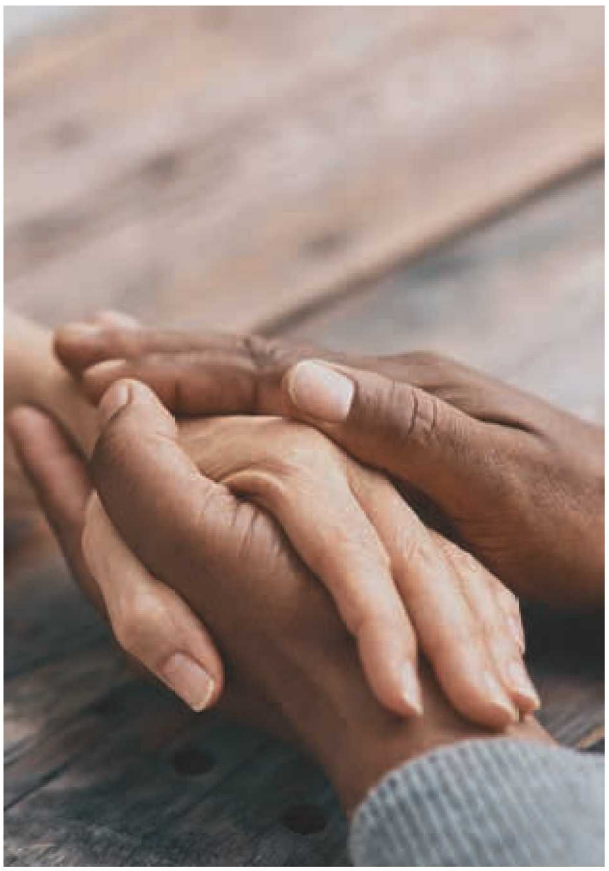
B
Sample is collected

C
Sample and TRF are sent to Next Biosciences

D
DNA Sequencing

E
Results available in 7-10 working days

Scan the code for easy access to more information.



Reference: 1 Wapner et al. (2012) NEJM 367 (23): 2175-2184. 2 Jeve et al. J Hum Reprod Sci. 2014 Jul-Sep; 7(3): 159–16