Sonic Genetics
Quality is in our DNA

harmony® PRENATAL TEST

Trisomy 13 Patau Syndrome

Information for patients

The healthcare professional responsible for your care has given you this leaflet because you have been identified by the Harmony® Prenatal Test as having a high probability of a chromosome disorder in your pregnancy. This fact sheet contains more information about the particular genetic disorder mentioned in your Harmony report. We recommend that you also discuss your result with an experienced doctor or genetic counsellor.

Patau syndrome, otherwise known as Trisomy 13, is a serious chromosomal condition that occurs when there is an extra copy of chromosome 13, meaning that there are three copies instead of the expected two (Figure 1). Patau syndrome occurs in about one in 16,000 newborns and most babies with Patau syndrome will miscarry; of those babies who are born, most will live for just a short time. While the chance of having a baby with Patau syndrome increases as women age, it can occur in any pregnancy.

Patau syndrome can affect many different parts of the body, including the heart and kidneys, brain development, and other physical abnormalities. Patau syndrome is also associated with failure to grow and severe intellectual disability. There is no cure for Patau syndrome and the symptoms can be difficult to manage. You are likely to need help from a wide range of health professionals. During pregnancy, some signs that a baby may have Patau syndrome may be visible by ultrasound. If these signs are present, it is important that they are investigated further.

How to interpret a high probability result for Trisomy 13

Receiving a high probability result for Patau syndrome means that there is an increased chance that your baby will have Patau syndrome. However, it is important to remember that all NIPTs are screening tests, and for many different biological reasons the baby may not have the condition that is reported as high probability. Due to this, a high probability NIPT result should be confirmed using a diagnostic test before making any major clinical decisions. These tests involve an invasive procedure, known as chorionic villus sampling (CVS) or amniocentesis. A doctor, midwife or genetic counsellor can provide information on the different options available.

It is important for each individual or family to understand what these results mean for them and their situation. Your healthcare provider is the person to ask if you have any questions about the condition and your results. Further information can be found by visiting the references listed below.

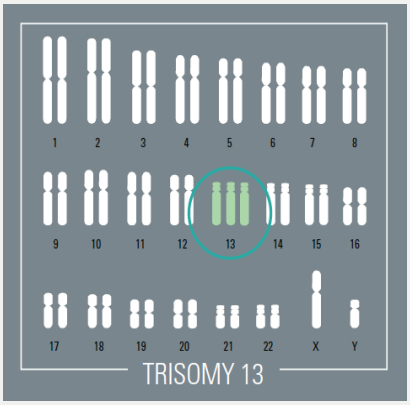

Figure 1 Karyotype showing a person with three copies of chromosome 13. This person would have Patau syndrome.

This information sheet provides general information about the test result and recommendations. It is not intended to replace genetic counselling by a medical professional.

References

- A.D.A.M. Medical Encyclopedia. Atlanta (GA): A.D.A.M., Inc.; ©2005. Trisomy 13;2015 Jan 8
- Centre for Genetics Education (AU). Fact sheet 37 -Trisomy 13 Patau syndrome [Internet]. 2016 Aug
- National Library of Medicine (US). Genetics Home Reference [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): The Library; 2017 Oct 17. Trisomy 13; [reviewed 2013 Nov]

For further information, including scientific and peer-reviewed publications, please refer to our website, www.sonicgenetics.com.au/nipt or call us on 1800 010 447

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