

# SWI Now offers Nuchal Translucency Screening

SWI Diagnostics, LLC 308 South Pine Street Summerville SC



## MOBILE ultrasound service



SWI Diagnostics is a South Carolina based ancillary service provider offering mobile ultrasound scanning to physician offices and clinics throughout the Lowcountry. We have combined our years of experience and clinical expertise to bring the very latest in digital ultrasound services to our medical community. We've assembled a team of highly qualified sonographers and experienced physicians specializing in the interpretation of ultrasound procedures. Currently, SWI Diagnostic's mobile ultrasound service travels to Charleston, Colleton, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties. The patients in these areas may now have their ultrasound exams coordinated with their regular doctor's visit, in the comfort and convenience of familiar surroundings

Our strengths are in women's health services, vascular, and abdominal ultrasound, and SWI has recently acquired certification from the Nuchal Translucency Quality Review Program to perform first trimester nuchal translucency testing. Nuchal translucency ultrasound is typically performed in conjunction with the pregnancy-associated plasma protein-A (PAPP-A) and free beta-human chorionic gonadotropin ( $\beta$ -hCG) maternal serum biochemical tests. First-trimester nuchal translucency combined with maternal serum PAPP-A and free  $\beta$ -hCG levels is increasingly being utilized as a screening test for prenatal risk of chromosomal defects such as Down syndrome. When measured correctly, nuchal translucency thickness is a powerful marker for Down

Syndrome screening in the late first trimester. All pregnant women, regardless of their age, should be offered screening for Down syndrome, according to a new Practice Bulletin issued in January 2007 by The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). Previously, women were automatically offered genetic counseling and diagnostic testing for Down syndrome by amniocentesis or chorionic villus sampling (CVS) if they were 35 years or older. The new ACOG guidelines recommend that all pregnant women consider less invasive screening options for assessing their risk for Down syndrome, a common disorder that is caused by an extra chromosome and can result in congenital heart defects and mental retardation. Screening for Down syndrome should occur before the 20th week of pregnancy.

SWI comes to your office on a weekly or biweekly basis depending on your volume, and performs quality, state-of-the-art OB, Vascular, and Abdominal Ultrasound studies, scheduled by your office at a mutually convenient time. We utilize state of the art GE equipment for superior imaging quality. Preliminary technical reports are available immediately and a final report by our Board Certified in state Radiologists is available within 8 hours via fax. Stat reports are delivered verbally or via fax within one hour.



### Ultrasound Tests Performed in Your

# OFFICE

SWI is a Mobile Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility and a participating Medicare provider. If you are a health care provider, contact us today for more information on how you can offer on site diagnostic imaging services to your patients without the capital investment associated with the equipment or the overhead of a professional staff. Remember SWI Diagnostics when considering a diagnostic imaging solution

[www.swidiagnostics.com](http://www.swidiagnostics.com)  
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## Nuchal Translucency

The nuchal translucency sonogram is performed between 11 menstrual weeks 4 days and 13 menstrual weeks 6 days. A measurement is obtained of the subcutaneous fluid under the soft tissues of the fetal neck. Increased dimension of this collection is associated with an increased risk of Down syndrome, trisomy 18, fetal cardiac, and some other anomalies.

Nuchal translucency screening done alone is approximately 80% sensitive in identifying fetuses with Down syndrome or trisomy 21, and is a complimentary examination to the second trimester maternal blood AFP screening. This is also a useful screening test for individuals who are undecided about amniocentesis and want additional risk information. Nuchal translucency screening should be performed in conjunction with first trimester biochemistry blood tests-free Beta hCG and PAPP-A, which can be drawn between 9 menstrual weeks and 13 menstrual weeks 6 days. Combining this blood test with the nuchal translucency ultrasound screening can detect approximately 90% of fetuses with Down syndrome and can detect up to 97% of fetuses with trisomy 18 and cardiac defects. This first trimester blood test when performed alone without nuchal translucency screening is much less sensitive and can detect only 68% of fetuses with Down syndrome, which is a similar detection rate as the second trimester expanded AFP testing