

# Care After a Chorionic Villi Sampling (CVS)

## Your Procedure

During a chorionic villus sampling (CVS), a small amount of tissue is removed from your baby's developing placenta. The tissue is used to determine if your baby has specific genetic problems. The concern may be related to your age, family history, screening results or other factors.

## What to Expect After a CVS

Some women have mild menstrual-type cramping. This can last for several hours or up to several days.

There might also be minor bleeding (spotting). Spotting can last as long as a week, but usually clears within a few days.

If your blood type is Rh negative you will receive a RhoGAM® shot after the procedure. This is a medicine to prevent your blood from reacting against your baby's blood.

## Pain Relief

To help relieve any cramping, you should lie down and rest.

You can also take acetaminophen (such as Tylenol®). You can take 650 to 1,000 mg every 4 hours as needed. Do not take more than 4,000 mg in 24 hours. If you don't have relief in 24 hours, call your clinic.

## Activity

- For 24 hours after the procedure avoid strenuous activity such as heavy lifting, jogging and aerobics
- For 48 hours after the procedure, do not have sexual intercourse. After 48 hours, if you have spotting, do not have sexual intercourse until the spotting has cleared completely. Do not use tampons.

## When To Call Your Health Care Provider

Call your health care provider if you have:

- a slow leak, steady trickle or sudden gush of clear fluid. If this happens, lie down and rest until you speak with your health care provider.
- vaginal bleeding, similar to a menstrual period
- severe abdominal (stomach) pain
- "flu-like" symptoms such as fever, chills and muscle aches within the first 2 weeks after the procedure.

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## Results

You will receive a call from the Minnesota Perinatal Physicians office in about 10 to 14 days with the final test results.

A CVS test does not screen for spina bifida. Your health care provider may recommend that you have a blood test (maternal serum AFP) at 16 to 18 weeks from your last menstrual period. This can be done with your primary care provider.

## For More Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Minnesota Perinatal Physicians at:

- 612-863-4502  
(Abbott Northwestern Hospital)
- 612-241-6270 (United Hospital).