Prenatal Screening and Diagnosis for Chromosomal Abnormalities and Neural Tube Defects

ARUP Consult

(Based on ACOG Screening Recommendations, 2016; ACOG Committee Opinion Recommendations, 2015)

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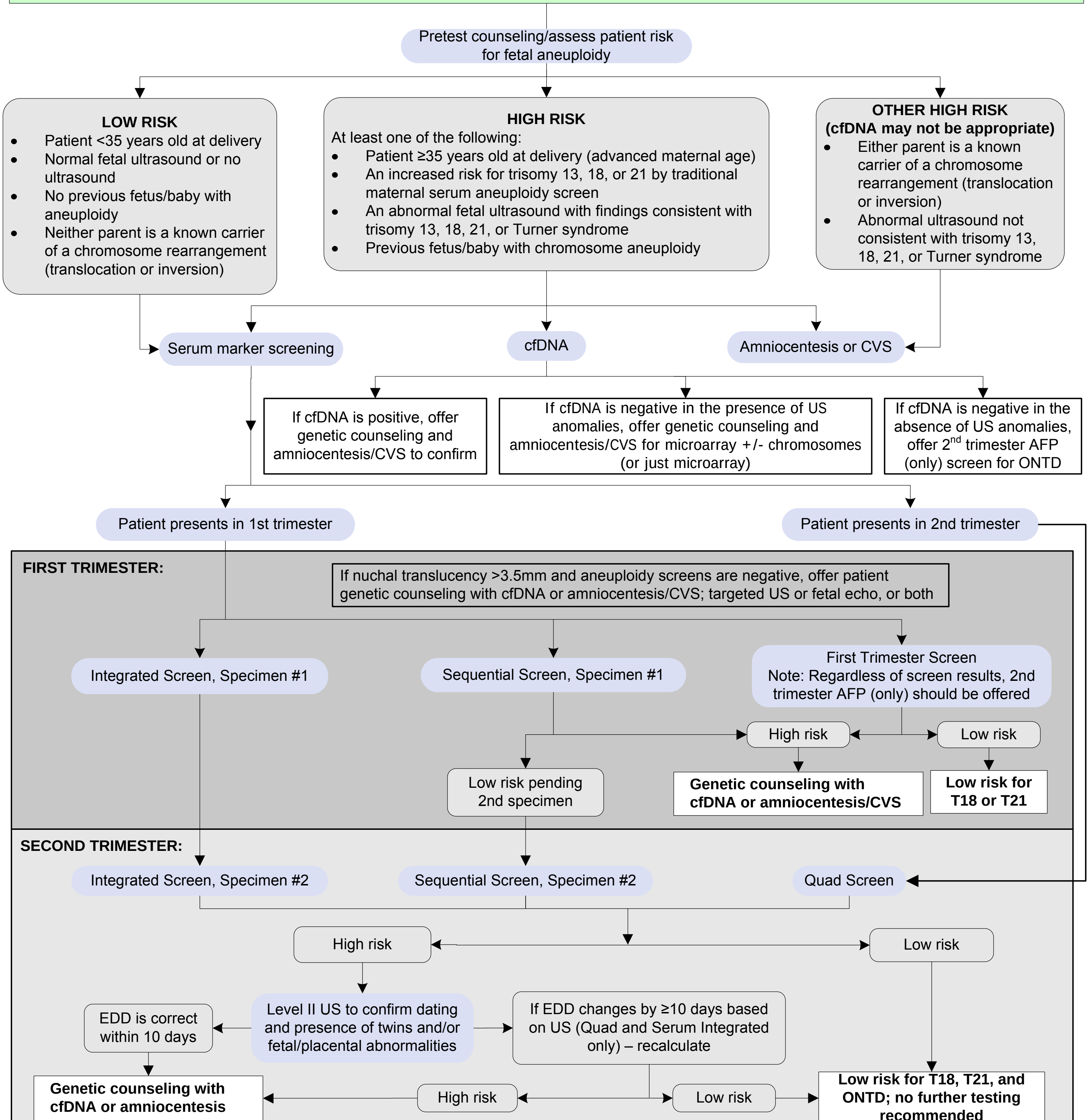
Screening Recommendations

- All women, regardless of age, should have the option of invasive testing
- Maternal age of 35 years alone should not be used as a cutoff to determine who is offered screening versus who is offered invasive testing; however, maternal age does play a role in determining a priori risk for certain fetal abnormalities
- This algorithm provides a guideline; women may choose screening options alternate to what is recommended by their risk category after appropriate pretest counseling



AFP – alpha fetoprotein, CRL – crown rump length, CVS – chorionic villus sampling, DIA – dimeric inhibin A, DR – detection rate, EDD – estimated delivery date, hCG – human chorionic gonadotropin, cfDNA – cell-free DNA, NT – nuchal translucency, ONTD – open neural tube defect, PAPP-A – pregnancy-associated placental protein A, SPR – screen positive rate, T18 – trisomy 18, T21 – trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), uE3 – unconjugated estriol