# First-trimester combined screening for trisomy 21 in women with renal disease

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### Objective

To evaluate the results of first-trimester combined screening in women with chronic renal disease.

### Methods

Fifty-five pregnant women with renal disease were compared with 110 patients matched for maternal age, maternal weight, smoking status, and gestational age at a 1: 2 ratio. Maternal renal function was assayed at the time of the combined screening and renal insufficiency was defined by serum creatinine > 90  $\mu$ mol/L and renal clearance < 80 mL/min. We defined 3 groups based on renal function: kidney disease and normal function (group 1), kidney disease and renal insufficiency (group 2) and a control group (group 3). The values of nuchal translucency, PAPP-A and hCG $\beta$  as well as false-positive rates for Down syndrome screening were studied and compared between groups.

#### Results

There were 39 (71%) and 16 (29%) cases in groups 1 and 2 respectively. Maternal age, nuchal translucency and MoM PAPP-A were similar in the 3 groups. However, mean serum hCG $\beta$  levels were higher in group 2 than in groups 1 and 3. (7. 048 v. 2. 16 v. 1. 1 MoM, p= 0. 00001). The resulting screen-positive rate (SPR) was also higher in group 2 than in groups 1 and 3 (43. 5% v. 10. 2% v. 5. 5%, p = 0. 0001). There were two cases of trisomy 21 in group 3 and none in groups 1 and 2.

## Conclusion

First-trimester combined screening for trisomy 21 based on hCGβ is not suitable in the case of maternal renal failure.