Objective
To compare demographic and reproductive health-related medical factors between women who accepted and declined combined first trimester screening (cFTS) and to examine the reasons for this choice.

Methods
A nationwide survey conducted in Denmark in 2014. A structured questionnaire with 33 questions relating to demographical data and medical history was mailed to 1495 randomly selected women who gave birth in 2012. Half of the women were selected among the population without cFTS, the other half from those with cFTS. A cohort of twenty women tested the questionnaire for consistency. The results are based on the responders (58%).

Results
Not having a cFTS performed was associated with country of origin other than Denmark (p<0. 001), less education (p<0. 001) and unemployment (p<0. 001). These women were more religious (p<0. 001), had more rarely experienced induced abortions (p=0. 003), had less often planned the pregnancy (p<0. 001) and more often knew a person with trisomy 21 (p<0. 05). They felt less informed about the cFTS (p<0. 001), thought it was a more difficult decision (p<0. 001) and ended up being less satisfied (p<0. 05). Main reasons for declining cFTS were a wish to keep the child no matter what (82%) and opposition towards abortion (47%). 5% of the responders did not have cFTS due to lack of information.

Conclusion
Women without cFTS differ on both demographic and medical parameters from those having cFTS. Not undergoing cFTS was most often the result of a conscious choice, based on ethical considerations rather than lack of information.