



Informed Choice for Prenatal Panel

It is the standard of care among most maternity care providers to perform a routine obstetric or prenatal panel on all woman. Midwifery care strongly recommends this routine test as well. An obstetric panel is collected via a blood draw. This will be one at the birth center and sent off to the lab.

An obstetric panel consists of a **CBC** (complete blood count), which is an examination of both red and white blood cells, primary focus being on hemoglobin and hematocrit, both measures of anemia. In addition your **Blood type and Rh Factor**, an **Antibody Screen** will be identified, which helps us to determine relationships between your blood antibodies and that of your babies. **Rubella** is another component where most women are immune to Rubella by their childbearing years due to childhood vaccinations or previous infection. Contracting Rubella during pregnancy can be very damaging to at the unborn baby. **Syphilis**, a rare but dangerous venereal disease, and **Hepatitis B** a blood borne liver disease can also cross the placenta and be very dangerous to your baby.

The Centers for Disease Control, and the American Academy of Pediatrics strongly suggests universal **HIV** screening of pregnancy women. The Oregon legislature in 2005 passed HB 2706 revised Ors 433.017 and 433.045 to facilitate universal testing for HIV. The new law, effective Jan 1, 2006 states that special informed consent for HIV testing will no longer be required for pregnant women, in fact proof of declination is now mandatory.

Changes in statues and administrative rules now require that all women be notified of all infectious conditions including HIV, routinely screened for. Additionally, all women have the right to decline any and all screenings, and that written documentation should accompany any declination.

Some clients will choose to include an **A1C** test to their prenatal panel. The A1C test provides information about a person's average levels of blood glucose over the past 3 months. The A1C test is used to measure your ability to metabolize sugar and a potential indicator of gestational diabetes.

Midwifery Care in an effort to promote true informed choice throughout pregnancy and birth, asks you to consider all testing options and sign this consent form. Please fell free to ask any questions you may have.

All test results are confidential and may not be shared with any third party without specific written authorization from you. Results are routinely shared with hospital staff in the event of a transport.

***Prenatal obstetric panels are usually covered by insurance. For those paying cash the panel minus HIV is \$96.00 and the HIV screen is \$20.00.

I have had an opportunity to discuss the following tests with my midwives, Janette Gyesky and Dana Johnson, and am opting to **DECLINE the following tests** as indicated by my signed initials:

- _____ CBC
- _____ Blood type, RH, Antibody Screen
- _____ Rubella
- _____ Syphilis
- _____ Hepatitis B
- _____ HIV
- _____ A1C

Client Signature

Date