

FINDING PERINATAL SERVICES

Perinatal Services are available at three locations:

1. Saint Luke's Hospital is north of the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City. Our office is located in the Peet Center of 43rd Street and Wornall Road. Free parking is located in the outpatient parking lot adjacent to the Peet Center.
2. Saint Luke's Northland Hospital's Perinatal Center is in the Maternity Center on the 2nd floor of the hospital at 5830 NW Barry Road in North Kansas City. The hospital is on Barry Road off of I-29. Free parking is located in front of the hospital.
3. Saint Luke's South's Perinatal Center is located in the Maternity Center on the 2nd floor of the hospital at 12300 Metcalf Ave. in Overland Park. The hospital is located between old Metcalf and Blue Valley Parkway at 123rd Street. Free parking is located in front of the hospital.



For directions to any of our facilities, please call our direction line (816) 932-5858.

BILLING

After your appointment with Perinatal Services, you will receive two bills for the services provided – one from the Obstetrix physicians and one from the appropriate Saint Luke's Health System facility for the hospital charges.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about your scheduled procedure, or need to reschedule or cancel your appointment, please call (816) 932-5127. Please arrive 30 minutes in advance to register, unless instructed otherwise.

Perinatal Services

A High-Risk Referral Program offered by Saint Luke's Health System

Perinatal Services



saintlukeshealthsystem.org



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Perinatal Services of Saint Luke's Health System offers a wide range of obstetrical diagnostic and assessment services. These services can be scheduled at one of three locations: Saint Luke's Hospital, Saint Luke's Northland Hospital, or Saint Luke's South.

During your pregnancy you may be referred to us by your physician for a variety of reasons. These may include:

Perinatology consultation, high-resolution ultrasound studies, genetic counseling, or genetic diagnostic procedures such as amniocentesis or CVS.

PERINATOLOGY CONSULTS

High-risk obstetric problems may involve medical conditions that existed prior to pregnancy, medical conditions that develop during current pregnancy, or problems involving the pregnancy. The referring care provider may request that the perinatologist review a patient's medical history with the patient and family. After the consultation, a recommendation for care letter is sent to the referring care provider.

ULTRASOUND

Obstetrical ultrasound or sonogram uses high frequency sound waves to obtain images of the pelvic organs and the fetus. The transducer, which produces the images, will be placed on your lower abdomen. There is no pain or discomfort during the examination. Obstetrical ultrasound has no known harmful effects for the fetus or mother.

Ultrasound is a very accurate method to determine gestational age. Ultrasound is also used to assess for fetal malformation or abnormalities, to determine the number of fetuses, or to locate possible sources of bleeding.

For examinations prior to 12 weeks gestational age, the urinary bladder must be filled before the examination. A full bladder aids in the visualization of female reproductive organs and of the early pregnancy. You will be asked to drink 32 ounces of water one hour before the examination and not to empty your bladder prior to the examination. If you have a full bladder when you arrive, this will reduce your waiting time and ensure the best possible examination. After 14 weeks, a full bladder is not required for an ultrasound exam unless you are having bleeding.

GENETIC COUNSELING

Genetic counseling may be recommended for families with a history of birth defects, mental retardation, or other potential genetic problems. All women referred for consideration of amniocentesis or chorion villus sampling will also see a genetic counselor for birth defects risk assessment and for an explanation of the procedure.

AMNIOCENTESIS

Amniocentesis involves passing a thin needle through the abdomen into the amniotic sac. The needle is then used to remove a small amount of fluid from the sac surrounding the fetus. This enables evaluation of chromosomes, alpha-fetoprotein (for neural tube defects), and where indicated, other genetic factors.

Genetic amniocentesis is usually performed between 15-18 weeks of pregnancy. Indications for amniocentesis include: advanced maternal age (35 years or older at the time of delivery), a family history of chromosome abnormality or neural tube defect, a family history of an inherited genetic disorder, or an abnormal result on a maternal serum screen.

Maturity amniocentesis is performed in the third trimester of pregnancy to determine fetal lung maturity.

Some women may experience spotting or cramping after the amniocentesis. The most serious risk of amniocentesis is the possibility of miscarriage following the procedure. Nationally the risk for miscarriage is reported as less than 1/200 (0.5 percent).

CHORIONIC VILLUS SAMPLING (CVS)

CVS involves the physician either inserting a thin needle through the abdomen into the uterus or passing a thin catheter through the vagina. A very small amount of chorionic villi, which is a portion of the placenta, is removed under ultrasound guidance.

Indications for CVS are similar to those for amniocentesis. However, neural tube defects are not detected by CVS, and a maternal serum screen should be done in the second trimester to screen for the abnormal levels of alpha-feto protein in women who have CVS.

The most common side effects from CVS are uterine cramping and/or bleeding. The risk of miscarriage after CVS is about 1 percent.

PERINATAL SERVICES STAFF

Ultrasonographers and genetic counselors from the Perinatal Center at Saint Luke's Hospital staff Perinatal Services at all locations. A perinatologist from Obstetrix Medical Group is available for consultations and diagnostic procedures. Perinatologists are obstetrician-gynecologists who are board-certified subspecialists in high-risk maternal-fetal medicine.