

INFORMED CONSENT AND REQUEST FOR AMNIOCENTESIS

DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM UNTIL YOU HAVE READ IT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS

PATIENT'S NAME _____

The following has been explained to me in general terms and I understand that:

1. The diagnosis requiring the procedure is pregnancy with a possibly higher risk of an abnormal infant

2. The nature of the procedure is to try to withdraw a sample of the fluid (amniotic fluid) that surrounds the infant by inserting a needle into the mother's uterus.

3. The purpose of the procedure is a) possibly detect certain defects of abnormalities of the infant, or b) to aid in determining by laboratory tests done on the fluid, if the infant's lungs are developed enough to breath properly.

4. MATERIAL RISKS OF THE PROCEDURE

As a result of this procedure being performed, there may be material risks of:

Infection, Allergic Reaction, Disfiguring Scar, Severe Loss of Blood, Loss or Loss of Function of any Limb or Organ, Paralysis or Partial Paralysis, Paraplegia or Quadriplegia, Brain Damage, Cardiac Arrest or Death.

5. In addition to these material risks, there may be other possible risks involving this procedure including but not limited to:

- a. possible maternal injury: Injury or infection to the skin, wall of the abdomen, uterus (womb), bladder, bowel, or blood vessel;
- b. possible fetal (infant) injury including all of the material risks listed;
- c. possible premature rupture of the fetal membranes (amniotic sac) or loss of fluid that may result in premature labor or infection;
- d. possible labor that may result in the need for hospitalization and medication to attempt to stop labor, or the birth of an immature infant;
- e. possible injury to bowel, bladder, ureter or other pelvic or abdominal structures;
- f. possible need for immediate surgery or other additional surgery;
- g. possible blood loss necessitating transfusion which carries the risk of exposure to AIDS, hepatitis, and other infectious diseases;
- h. possible failure to obtain any or enough amniotic fluid or the failure to obtain laboratory results of adequate diagnostic significance.

6. The likelihood of success of the above procedure is: ()good; ()fair; ()poor.

7. The practical alternatives to this procedure include a) do nothing and accept the consequences of not diagnosing or correcting the fetus's (infant) condition for which the amniocentesis has been suggested; b) diagnostic ultrasound; c) other forms of genetic screening such as Maternal Serum Alpha-fetoprotein and Chorionic Villus Sampling.

8. If the patient chooses not to have the above procedure, the prognosis (predicted future medical condition) is that the patient may be the parent of an infant with a serious defect or abnormality.

I understand that the physician, medical personnel and other assistants will rely on statements about the patient, the patient's medical history, and other information in determining whether to perform the procedure or the course of treatment for the patient's condition and in recommending the above procedure.

I understand the practice of medicine is not an exact science and that NO GUARANTEES OR ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN MADE TO ME concerning the results of this procedure.

I understand that during the course of the procedure described above it may be necessary or appropriate to perform additional procedures which are unforeseen or not known to be needed at the time this consent is given. I consent to and authorize the persons described herein to make the decisions concerning such procedures. I also consent to and authorize the performance of such additional procedures as they deem necessary or appropriate.

I also consent to diagnostic studies, tests, anesthesia, x-ray examinations and other treatment or courses of treatment relating to the diagnosis or procedures described herein.

BY SIGNING THIS FORM, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ OR HAD THIS FORM READ AND/OR EXPLAINED TO ME, THAT I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS, AND THAT I HAVE BEEN GIVEN AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTION AND THAT ANY QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED SATISFACTORILY. ALL BLANKS OR STATEMENTS REQUIRING COMPLETION WERE FILLED IN AND ALL STATEMENTS I DO NOT APPROVE OF WERE STRICKEN BEFORE I SIGNED THIS FORM. I ALSO HAVE RECEIVED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE MATERIALS LISTED BELOW RELATING TO THE PROCEDURE DESCRIBED HEREIN.

I voluntarily consent to allow Dr. _____ or any physician designated or selected by him or her and all medical personnel under the direct supervision and control of such physician and all other personnel who may otherwise be involved in performing such procedures to perform the procedures described or otherwise referred to herein.

Witness

Person Giving Consent
Relationship to patient if not the patient:

Date _____ Time _____

Patient unable to sign because: _____

Additional materials used, if any, during the informed consent process for this procedure: