Program of Genetics & Metabolism,
HSC Winnipeg

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Referral Process for Low-Risk Women with Soft Signs Identified on Prenatal Ultrasound in the Absence of Congenital Anomalies

INDICATION	ACTION REQUIRED
Isolated nuchal fold	**Refer to Genetics** - increased risk for Down syndrome, cardiac anomalies, and other concerns
Isolated echogenic bowel	**Refer to Genetics** - increased risk of cystic fibrosis, maternal infection, and other concerns
Isolated short femurs/ humeri (femur measurement that is less than 0.9 of expected for the gestational age, when the gestational age is ascertained by the biparietal diameter)	**Refer to Genetics** - increased risk of skeletal dysplasia
Mild ventriculomegaly (lateral cerebral ventricles measuring between 10-15mm)	**Refer to Genetics** - increased risk of maternal infection and other concerns
Mild pyelectasis	**Refer to Fetal Assessment Unit** - for genitourinary follow-up
Other isolated soft sign	**No Action Needed**
Echogenic intracardiac focus/foci with choroid plexus cyst/cysts.	**No Action Needed**
Other cases of multiple soft signs	**Refer to Genetics**
Major congenital anomalies, irrespective of soft signs	**Refer to Genetics**
Positive aneuploidy screen (e.g., maternal serum screen, non-invasive prenatal testing) irrespective of soft signs	**Refer to Genetics**

Call the Program of Genetics & Metabolism (204-787-4631) *and ask to speak with the prenatal genetic counsellor on-call if you are uncertain about whether an individual meets referral criteria.*

This information is provided by: Program of Genetics & Metabolism, Shared Health
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