AFP (Alpha-Fetoprotein) Test

AFP is a test used to check for birth defects in your baby. AFP is a protein made by your baby during pregnancy. It passes into your blood. To test AFP levels, a blood sample is taken from you. If the AFP level is high or low, your baby may have a birth defect.

The test causes no harm to you or to your baby. It can only test for some birth defects. Talk to your doctor about having this test. You can choose to not have this test.

What do the test results mean?

If your due date has changed or you are carrying twins, your result may be high or low. If your AFP level is high or low, there will be more tests. These tests may include:

- A repeat of the AFP test
- A picture of your baby using sound waves called an ultrasound
- A test to check the fluid around your baby called amniocentesis
- Genetic counseling to review your test results

Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.
AFP (Alpha-Fetoprotein) Test.  Traditional Chinese

甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)測試

甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)測試用於檢查嬰兒的先天缺陷。甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)是懷孕期間胎兒體內製造的蛋白質，並會流入孕婦的血液中。要測試甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)水平，必須抽取血液樣本。如果甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)偏高或偏低，則胎兒可能有先天缺陷。

該測試對孕婦和嬰胎無害，但只能測試出某些先天缺陷。請跟您的醫生討論是否該接受這項檢測，您可以選擇不接受該檢測。

檢測結果有甚麼意義？

測試結果偏高或偏低時，可能是因為您的預產期發生變化或懷的是雙胞胎。如果甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)水平偏高或偏低，可能要進行更多的檢測，包括：

- 重新做一次甲種胎兒球蛋白(AFP)檢測
- 利用超聲波作掃描胎兒的圖片
- 利用羊水穿刺診斷檢查胎兒周圍的液體
- 進行遺傳諮詢以審核測試結果

測試結果會送到您的醫生處，讓醫生跟您討論結果。

如有任何問題或疑慮可以向您的醫生或護理人員諮詢。