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MedGenome launches Panorama (non-invasive prenatal test) in India

Panorama is unique in analyzing single-polymorphisms (SNPs) to screen for chromosomal disorders in the fetus, making it the only test that can distinguish qualitatively between fetal and maternal DNA

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MedGenome, a provider of genomic solutions for personalized healthcare in India, and Natera, a global leader in non-invasive genetic testing, have entered into an exclusive agreement to bring non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) to India. As part of the agreement, MedGenome will have

exclusive license to develop the capacity and perform the Panorama test in India.

Natera's test, known as Panorama™, is a non-invasive prenatal screening test that examines fetal DNA in the mother's blood to assess whether a developing baby is at high risk for having an abnormality in the chromosomes. Panorama uses a simple blood draw from the mother to screen for trisomy 21 (Down's syndrome), trisomy 18 (Edwards syndrome), trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome) and select sex chromosome abnormalities, such as monosomy X (Turner syndrome).

Panorama is the only screening test in the world that detects triploidy status in the fetus (69 chromosomes rather than 46 chromosomes), and reports whether a "vanishing" twin was present, i.e. there was a twin but it got absorbed, and is no longer detectable by ultrasound. Panorama can be performed from as early as 9 weeks gestation. In contrast to traditional prenatal genetic testing like chorionic villus sampling and amniocentesis, which are invasive tests, Panorama does not pose any risk for the fetus.

Mr. Sam Santhosh, CEO, MedGenome spoke about the partnership with Natera, "As per estimates, chromosomal abnormalities occur in about 1 of 700 live births. Infants with these abnormalities have mental retardation and suffer from malformations and disabilities. Due to the large number of births (26 million per year), India has the largest number of babies born with chromosomal disorders in the world (almost 33,000 per year). MedGenome is happy to partner with Natera and launch Panorama, a superior second-generation non-invasive prenatal test, compared to its peers. Through our partnership with Natera, we hope to bring about significant changes in the way pregnancies are managed in India."

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