Say no to needles!

MEDGENOME is the market leader for genetic diagnostic testing and genomics research in key disease areas from India. It is the first and the only molecular diagnostic lab to establish Non-Invasive Prenatal screening test (NIPT) for chromosomal disease in a facility in India. The reports suggests that it helps obstetricians and pregnant women across age groups to better manage their pregnancy at a very early stage. Dr I C Verma and Dr Ratna Puri from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi were the principal investigators of the study. The study sponsored by Bengaluru based MedGenome and their partner was conducted over the last ten months in collaboration with ten institutions across India to provide meaningful insights into the prenatal screening and diagnostic practices. The NIPT test was conducted on the samples at MedGenome's laboratory in Bengaluru. The

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NIPT screening 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. Unlike an invasive procedure such as Amniocentesis, where a needle is inserted into the mother's womb (amniotic sack) to collect amniotic fluid, NIPT does not involve any invasive procedure of the womb. All that NIPT needs is a blood sample drawn from the mother's arm to screen for Down syndrome, Edwards syndrome, Patau syndrome and other abnormalities. The NIPT screening does not pose any risk to feotus. Pregnant women interested to leverage the MedGenome NIPT can contact their doctor and request further guidance. MedGenome will require a doctor referral to conduct NIPT as part of the best practices that it follows. Further details are also available at http:// medgenomenipt.com/ ■



