Important issues are also raised by recent developments in prenatal genetic tests. From 2011 a new NIPT (noninvasive prenatal test) has been available for pregnant women in their first trimester to screen for Down's syndrome. Consisting of a simple maternal blood test, it involves a more reliable and safer technique for the fetus, which can be used earlier in pregnancy than the method formerly used for this type of genetic screening. According to some specialists, these characteristics, combined with commercial interests in favor of routine use of NIPT, risk increasing the pressure on women, who are left with the moral burden of deciding whether to agree to [undergo] this test, without even being informed properly by the medical personnel while facing this decision.[[i]](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/%22%20%5Cl%20%22m_8180782956259405939__edn1%22%20%5Co%20%22) Moreover, the number of conditions which NIPT can screenis graduallyincreasing, so that it should soon be able to offer a wide range of genetic information on the fetus. The question arises whether the possibility of obtaining an increased quantity of genetic information on a fetus is a positive development from individual and societal viewpoints. To what extent does it preserve the right of pregnant women not to be informed of the likelihood that their fetus has atypical genetic conditions? On the societal level, does prenatal genetic screening not encourage eugenics?

[[i]](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/%22%20%5Cl%20%22m_8180782956259405939__ednref1%22%20%5Co%20%22) Ravitsky, V., 2017, « The shifting landscape of prenatal testing: Between reproductive autonomy and public health », *Hastings Center Report*.