

MEMO

To: Obstetrical Care Providers, Medical Genetics MDs & Counsellors, BCW MAP US Reporting MDs, Sonographers and Clerical staff
RE: **Early Comprehensive First Trimester Anatomical Screening (ECFAS) at BCW Ultrasound**
From: Dr Chantal Mayer, Medical lead BCW Ultrasound
Date: **November 6, 2024**

Dear Care Providers,
The BCW Ultrasound department now offers a limited number of dedicated slots for Early Comprehensive First Trimester Anatomical Screening (ECFAS):

Please review referral criteria, triage and booking notes below:

BCW ECFAS referral Criteria:

- A. Pregnancy at increased risk for fetal structural, chromosomal/ genetic difference where early anatomical examination may allow for early prenatal invasive testing or pregnancy interruption.
 1. No call (failed) NIPT despite 2 draws
 2. Previous pregnancy with fetal structural difference, including critical congenital heart disease:
 - **subject to MFM triage** re: risk for recurrence + ability to see at T1 scan.
 - Please provide details of previous anomaly including supportive documentation
 3. First trimester exposure to teratogen:
 - **subject to MFM triage:** please provide details around nature of exposure (agent, dose) and timing of exposure
- B. To decrease the number of repeat detail scans for incomplete screening heart views:
 1. BMI > 35 *limited availability for ongoing trial until Spring 2026*

Referral to Medical Genetics for triage for consideration of MG consultation in conjunction with ECFAS ultrasound is recommended for the following patients:

- IVF Mosaic embryo transfer
- Failed NIPT due to atypical finding
- Failed NIPT for fetal sex or sex chromosome aneuploidy
- High risk NIPT for Trisomy 13, 18, 21, monosomy X, or triploidy
- Pregnant person affected with known genetic condition with risk to fetus associated with a structural malformation detectable by ultrasound

Booking process/ notes:

- Referral process: please use [BCW Ultrasound requisition](#), and clearly indicate reason for referral for ECFAS and provide relevant information above.
- Exams are ideally booked between 12+3 – 14+6 week gestational age. Pregnancy dating should to be confirmed by dating ultrasound prior to having an examination date & time booked.
- Suspected anomalies reported on outside 11-14 weeks dating scan should be referred to the FDS clinic
- Referrals for BMI > 35: if normal screening views are obtained, the follow up detail scan can be done at 21-22 weeks.
- Referral for increased risk for fetal difference: Early comprehensive fetal anatomical detail ultrasound +/- MG or MFM consult is not recommended *unless* the family is considering invasive testing or pregnancy interruption based on abnormal early anatomical ultrasound finding.
 - For those not considering invasive testing or pregnancy interruption for fetal differences, routine detail ultrasound at 19-21 weeks in either a screening facility or MFM center is recommended.