

# US Prenatal Testing Market Report: 2012 Edition

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## Abstracts

With the gradual evolution in the field of biomedical/healthcare technology, companies operating in the healthcare/pharmaceutical/therapeutic industry are now scaling new heights. Also, this industry is boosted by the rising number of incidences of health related issues emanating from the changing lifestyle and continuously changing surroundings.

To address the growing demand for better diagnosis and treatment options and the unmet needs within the chromosomal abnormalities and genetic disorders segment, respective companies are coming up with novel and improved diagnostics and testing methods. A part of the genetic testing segment includes the screening for genetic/chromosomal aberrations in the fetus termed as prenatal testing. By opting for the prenatal tests, birth defects like down syndrome, genetic disorders, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, thalassemia, among other chromosomal and genetic abnormalities could be detected before the birth of the child. The market is characterized by fast pace developments in the clinical technology and testing methodology.

The ongoing trends in the respective market include various strategic alliances, development of T21 testing assay by Sequenom, enhanced T21/T18 detection and reduced fetal loss by MaterniT21, ongoing clinical trials, and development of other fetal/maternal diagnostic tests. The drivers promoting prenatal testing market include factors like growth in genetic testing procedures, rising healthcare expenditure, increasing global GNI (gross national income), and increasing knowledge about genetic testing. Although it is a nascent development in the field of genetic testing, it has its own share of difficulties and hurdles where situations and elements such as adverse psychological impacts of prenatal testing, risks posed by invasive diagnostic procedures, escalating price pressure, and quality concerns related to biochemical genetic testing among others have been posing acute challenges.

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the US prenatal testing market covering the market opportunity for the T21 tests. The prenatal testing realm is getting intensely competitive with numerous corporations claiming the reins of the same. The leading industry players include PerkinElmer, Hologic and Sequenom among other global and domestic level players.

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