

NTQR Statement on Automated Nuchal Translucency (NT) Technology

Appropriate education, NT credentialed physicians and sonographers, adequate equipment and counseling resources are essential for practices offering first trimester risk assessment including the nuchal translucency measurement. NT measurements require the ability to image the fetus in the correct plane, to select appropriate images or conversely to discard suboptimal images, to optimize settings, to select the appropriate area for measurement, and to place the calipers correctly on the NT. Automated NT functions available on some ultrasound machines may facilitate uniform placement of calipers. This technology does not address optimal position of the fetus or substitute for other essential factors.

The Nuchal Translucency Quality Review committee provides education and ongoing quality review for participants reporting NT measurements. Obtaining the NT through automation is acceptable when the credentialed provider confirms the image and automated caliper placement meet all NTQR criteria.

Additional research on the efficacy of automated NT measurements is recommended.

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