



To: NTQR Sonographer Participants
From: Jean Lea Spitz, MPH, RDMS
Re: New Participation Fee for Sonographers

Hello Sonographers:

NTQR provides education, examination, and image review leading to nuchal translucency (NT) and nasal bone (NB) qualifications. The education and credentialing process insures that participants are measuring NTs and imaging nasal bone in a standardized manner. This is essential to provide accurate information for patients who choose risk assessment tests.

Ongoing monitoring of NT measurements is also essential. NTQR monitoring of participant NT data is an automated process for most participants. **NTQR participants do not have to submit images again after their initial credentialing process** unless they are part of a small randomly selected group or are asked to submit images for remediation.

Partner laboratories submit NT and CRL data directly to NTQR. For participants who do not submit to partnering laboratories, NTQR accepts NT and CRL values from participants provided on common database worksheets.

Once the data is received at NTQR, it is consolidated into one database for monitoring purposes.

The benefits of central monitoring include but are not limited to:

- Providing a standardized approach to QR monitoring in the USA.
- Consolidation of each provider's measurements across clinical sites and analyte laboratories.
- Increased precision of analysis and exploration of different referents and metrics in a centralized, anonymous, national database.

The results of the epidemiologic monitoring are reported directly to participating providers as well as the relevant participating biochemistry laboratories. If the sonographer / sonologist median NT is outside the acceptable range the participant is flagged and remediation procedures are required.

To insure automated participation in ongoing quality monitoring through participating laboratories, providers must record their NTQR credential number on the laboratory requisitions. We encourage participants to record the NTQR credential number of both the sonographer and the supervising physician.

To help support the data interfaces, statistical analysis, and research required the NTQR is initiating a \$35 annual participant fee for sonographers. The fee will be imposed on April 1, 2008 and on the anniversary date of your credential each year after April 1, 2009. (You can find your credential anniversary date by logging onto the NTQR website).

To pay the participation fee, log onto your account at <http://www.ntqr.org>. If you have difficulty logging on please contact us.

Remember if you have any questions or concerns you can e-mail us or phone. Contact information is listed below.

Thank you for your support of quality first trimester protocols.

Best wishes;

Jean Lea Spitz, MPH, RDMS

For additional information, frequently asked questions, or to register go to:

Website URL: <http://www.ntqr.org>

For technical consultation or help:

e-mail: ntqrsupport@ntqr.org

phone: 405-753-6534

To contact the program director:

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