

Down Syndrome

Awareness Month

WHAT IS IT?

A condition in which a person has an extra chromosome



The extra copy changes how the baby's brain and body develop. This can cause mental and physical challenges.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES?

Trisomy 21: Most Common

Each cell has 3 separate copies of chromosome 21 instead of the usual 2 copies

Translocation Down Syndrome

An extra part or a whole extra chromosome 21 is present but attached 'trans-located' to a different chromosome rather than being separate

Mosaic Down Syndrome

Some cells have 3 copies of chromosome 21, but others have the typical two copies

WHAT CAUSES IT?

Researchers are unsure why Down Syndrome occurs or how many factors play a role



HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED?

Down Syndrome occurs in about 1 in every 700 babies. Each year about 6,000 US babies are born with Down Syndrome



A formal diagnosis is required for this disorder. Doctors perform a series of tests after a positive screening test to confirm a Down Syndrome diagnosis. Tests include: Chorionic villus sampling (CVS), Amniocentesis, and Percutaneous umbilical blood sampling (PUBS)



Early intervention is highly recommended for children diagnosed with Down Syndrome to help improve their physical and intellectual abilities so they can develop to their full potential. These services include: speech, occupational, and physical therapies.