Amniocentesis

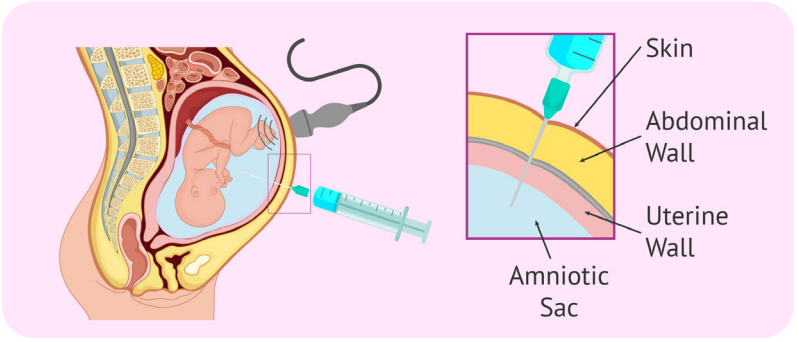
Read the passage and say if the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Then correct the false ones.

Amniocentesis is a procedure in which amniotic fluid is removed from the uterus for testing or treatment. Amniotic fluid is the fluid that surrounds and protects a baby during pregnancy. This fluid contains foetal cells and various proteins.

Genetic amniocentesis can provide information about the baby's genetic makeup. Generally, genetic amniocentesis is offered when the test results might have a significant impact on the management of the pregnancy or the desire to continue the pregnancy.

Genetic amniocentesis is usually done between weeks 15 and 20 of pregnancy. Amniocentesis done before week 15 of pregnancy has been associated with a higher rate of complications.

genetic makeup: *corredo genetico*
management: *gestione*
rate: *tasso*



	T	F
1. In amniocentesis, some tissue is removed from the uterus.	☐	☐
2. Cells and proteins are analysed.	☐	☐
3. Amniocentesis is a procedure for genetic testing.	☐	☐
4. Genetic amniocentesis is an ordinary procedure during pregnancy.	☐	☐
5. Genetic amniocentesis is usually done after the first trimester.	☐	☐
6. It is complicated to perform amniocentesis before week 15.	☐	☐

VILLOCENTESIS

The chorionic villus sampling is an invasive prenatal diagnostic test. This exam is performed when the pregnant woman has high risk factors associated to the development of foetal chromosomal abnormalities. The chorionic villus sampling is performed between the 10th and 12th week of pregnancy and the specialist prescribes this invasive prenatal test in case of:

- advanced maternal age (over 35 years);
- family history of chromosomal abnormalities;
- previous children affected by chromosomal abnormalities;
- positivity to prenatal screening tests.

Due to its invasivity, the chorionic villus sampling presents a risk of miscarriage up to 1%. This test is performed inserting a needle into the belly of the pregnant woman to draw chorionic villus samples that contain child's DNA. Villus analysis will give information about the genetic pool of the foetus, detecting the presence of chromosomal abnormalities.

chorionic villus sampling: *prelievo dei villi corionici*
to draw: *estrarre*
due to: *a causa di*
foetus: *feto*
genetic pool: *corredo genetico*
miscarriage: *aborto*
needle: *ago*
villocentesis: *villocentesi*