



FACT SHEET - Prospective Parents - Dear Doctor, We Want You to Know



Parents rely on health care professionals to give them the information and support they need, and without it it is impossible to make informed decisions.

“It would be useful to be told what Down syndrome is, what life is like having a child with Down syndrome We weren’t given information about how she would fit into society, would she be a burden on society?”

“I wasn’t given any information on what Down syndrome was. There are pamphlets on smoking in pregnancy, and diabetes in pregnancy Where’s the information on Down syndrome? I was told to go home and Google it.”

“More information at the start would have fed into the decision about whether or not we did the NIPT. We still would have done it, but may have been able to process the information faster if we were given more time.”

“That pivotal moment can change everything It’s so important the beginning is set on the correct path. If that path is not set in the right direction, it can have emotional damage, trauma can be caused, mental and physical damage.”



If you would like to speak to a Support Services Officer who can support you through your journey, please complete this form so we can contact you and understand how we can best support you.

<https://prenatalscreening.org.au/support/>

References

Down Syndrome Queensland. (2022). Practice Resource – Prenatal Screening for Chromosomal Conditions including Down syndrome. <https://prenatalscreening.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Prenatal-Screening-Practice-Resource.pdf>