Ultrasound Surveillance in MCDA Twin Pregnancies

Congratulations! You are expecting monochorionic-diamniotic (MCDA) twins, which means that your twins share a single placenta and each baby has their own sac of fluid. Approximately 20% of all twins are of this type and they are always identical and the same gender. Dr. Colin Walsh will be performing your ultrasound scans during the pregnancy.

All twin pregnancies have a higher risk of premature delivery compared to singletons. In addition, MCDA twins have a 10-15% risk of developing twin-twin transfusion syndrome (TTTS) and a 10% risk of a serious growth issue for one or both babies. You will need regular ultrasound scans during the pregnancy to monitor fetal growth carefully. Our recommended ultrasound schedule is:

- **8-10 weeks**: Dating ultrasound + confirm chorionicity
- **11-14 weeks**: Nuchal translucency screening ultrasound (optional)
- **16 weeks**: Commence ultrasound surveillance for TTTS
- **18 weeks**: Detailed morphology ultrasound (and gender if requested!)
- **20 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **22 weeks**: Fetal growth and detailed fetal cardiac ultrasound
- **24 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **26 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **28 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **30 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **32 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **34 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan
- **36 weeks**: Fetal growth, Doppler and TTTS surveillance scan

This schedule is recommended for women with uncomplicated MCDA twins. Monochorionic twins complicated by fetal growth problems, maternal pre-eclampsia or TTTS will often require increased ultrasound surveillance. Dr. Colin Walsh will discuss this carefully with you.