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**HIIP-project - Health, Innovation, ICT and Pregnancy**

*"Use of eHealth, in the communication with patients about prenatal diagnostic. An intervention study in clinical innovation carried out in a highly specialized unit for obstetrics".*

### **Background:**

Prenatal screening and diagnosis is testing for diseases or rare conditions in the fetus before birth. The aim is to assist the pregnant women to make their own decisions, and neutral and adequate counseling is a prerequisite during prenatal diagnosis. To make an informed choice, the pregnant women must be informed about the benefits and potential disadvantages of prenatal diagnosis and with this background be able to make a comprehensive evaluation, where ethical values will have a high impact.

**Aim:** In the work for a healthier society and high quality care, the aim of this project is to use advanced technologies to ensure easy access to high quality health information about prenatal screening for Downs syndrome to pregnant women.

**Purpose:** The overall purpose of this project is to increase pregnant women's knowledge of prenatal screening for Downs syndrome, and thereby an option to make an informed choice. The project is planned as a research into whether the use of an **eHealth solution** (in this project an interactive website) may be an appropriate intervention for pregnant women.

**Methods: Part one** consists of an identification of the problem - What are the challenges for pregnant women and for the health care system / health staff in relation to information about prenatal screening for Downs syndrome?

**Part two** consists of developing a website with relevant information about prenatal screening for Downs syndrome.

**Part three** is an effect measurement. The effect of the intervention is measured through a randomized controlled trial in which the essentials of the measurement will be the pregnant women's knowledge and behavior in relation to prenatal screening for Downs syndrome. Twice 600 pregnant women will be included in the project.

**Results:** The research aims at generating new knowledge about ways to inform pregnant women about prenatal screening for Downs syndrome. The expected results are:

- Higher knowledge about prenatal diagnosis for the pregnant women.
- Less difficulty in making an informed choice for the coming parents.
- Easy access to high quality information.
- Equity in access to high quality information.

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