

Spread

NTQA Program:

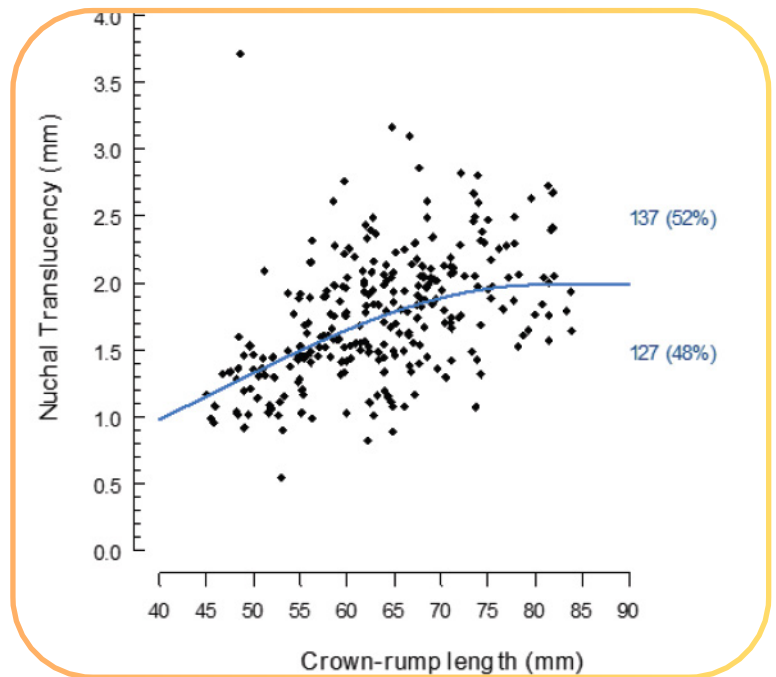
Spread is one of the statistical parameters used to assess a sonographer's nuchal translucency measurement accuracy.

Spread describes how closely the NT/CRL data points hug the Fetal Medicine Foundation (FMF-UK) reference curve. In a normal population, the data points should cluster around the FMF curve, with some natural variation. The data points should not be too far from, or too close to, the reference curve.

What does the number mean?

Spread is assessed by comparing the observed standard deviation to the expected standard deviation by the FMF reference data.

An acceptable spread will be close to one (1). When the data points are closer to the FMF curve, the spread will be less than 1, with a minimum of zero. When the data points are further from the FMF curve, the spread will be greater than 1.



Spread



1.2

This example graph shows NT data points with an acceptable spread, where the points cluster around the FMF reference curve and show acceptable variation.

Spread can help to identify if:

- There is an inconsistency in an operator's NT measurement practice.
- Operators are sharing unique NT identification numbers.
- Operators are selecting NT measurements based on the expected value at a given gestational age.

Looking for more information?

Visit Prenatal Screening Ontario's [website for Sonographers](#) or contact us to speak with a clinical content specialist

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