

NEET High-Yield Topic

Amniocentesis Misuse & Female Foeticide

Class 12 Biology NEET Revision: **Reproductive Health**



The Legitimate Medical Purpose



Amniocentesis: A procedure in which a sample of amniotic fluid surrounding the developing foetus is withdrawn to analyze fetal cells and dissolved substances.

Key Takeaways (Clinical Goal)

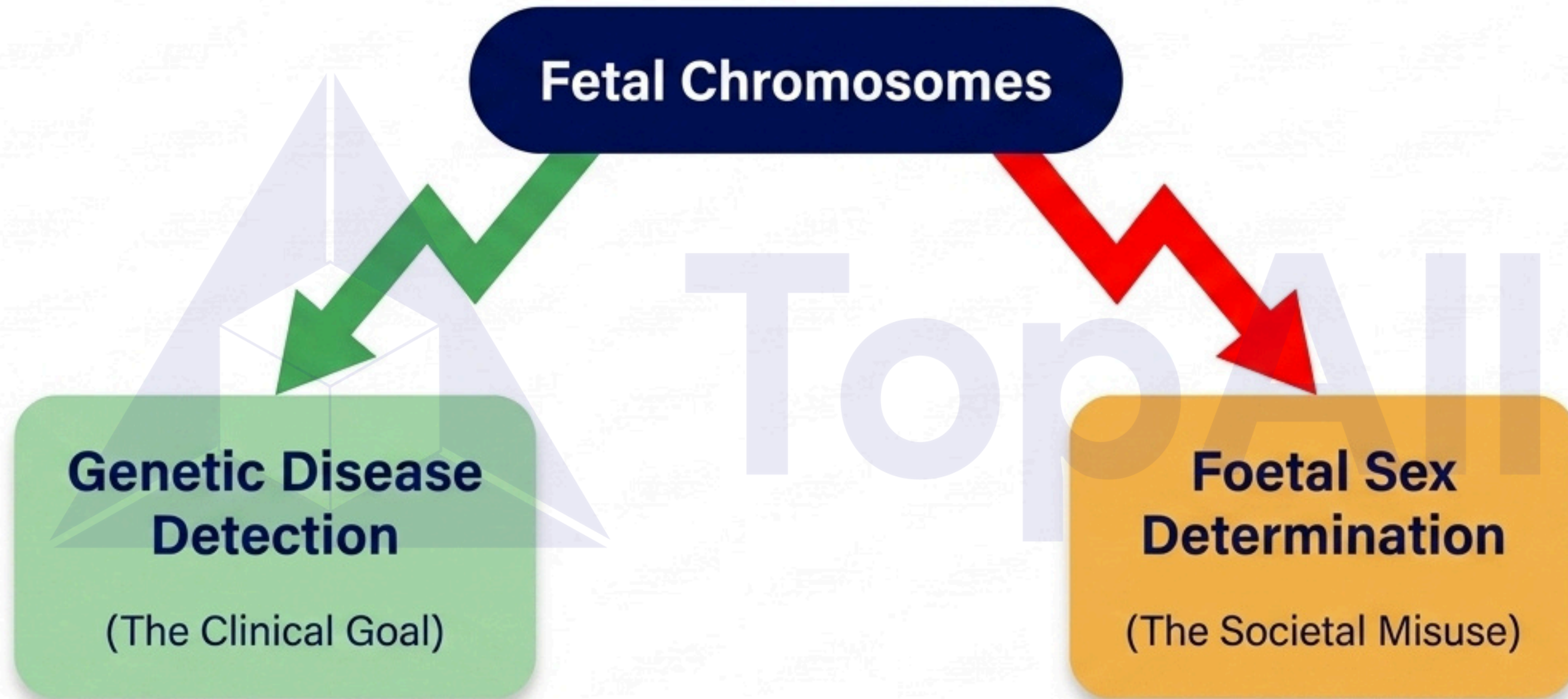


Primary Use: Detects Genetic Disorders

- Down syndrome
- Haemophilia
- Sickle-cell anaemia

Secondary Use:
Assesses overall foetal survival and health.

The Societal Misuse



The biological reality: The exact same cellular test that maps chromosomes for fatal diseases inadvertently reveals the sex chromosomes of the foetus, creating a pathway for illicit misuse.



You've Learned the Theory. Let's Test Them Now.

$$E=mc^2$$



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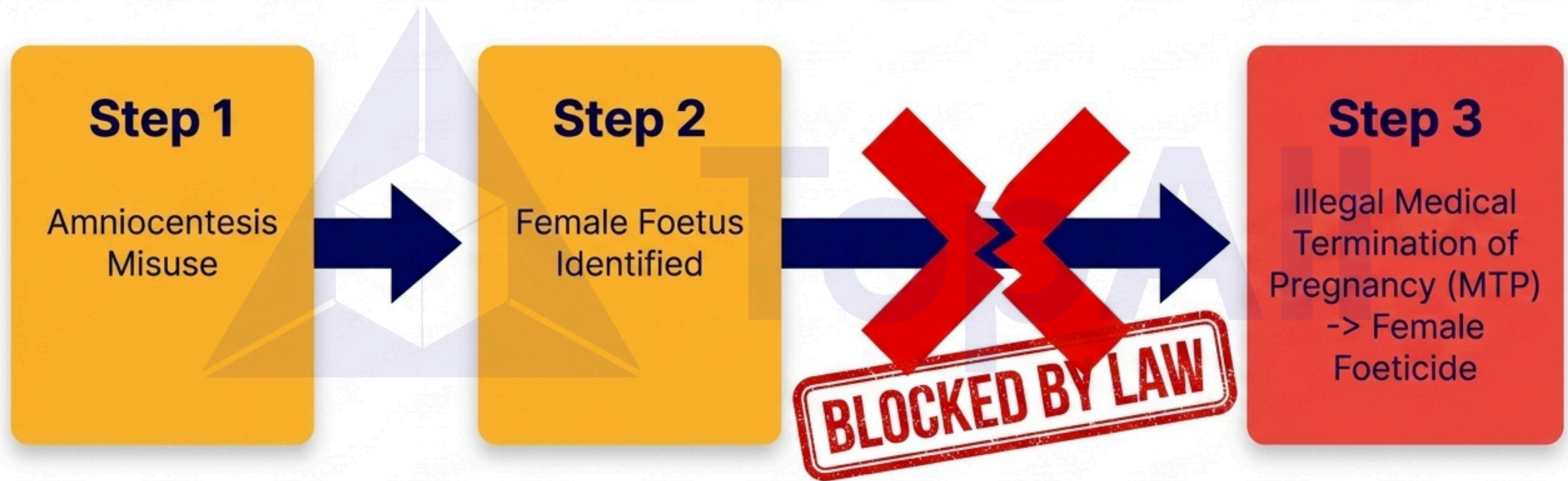
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The Tragic Consequence: Female Foeticide



Note: This illicit pathway is a primary driver of India's dangerously skewed child sex ratio in certain states.

The Legal Shield: PCPNDT Act



Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (1994)

Core Action: Enforces a strict statutory ban on the misuse of amniocentesis for sex-determination.

Enforcement Mechanics:

- ✓ • Clinics must declare in writing that they will not disclose the sex of the foetus.
- ✓ • Violators face immediate imprisonment and licence cancellation.

The Danger of the Shadows: Unsafe Abortions

The Legal MTP



Safe Window: Performed in the first trimester (up to 12 weeks of pregnancy).



Qualified Care: Executed by a Registered Medical Practitioner (RMP).



The Illegal Route



Driven underground by illicit sex-determination.



Performed by unqualified quacks.



Highly unsafe, frequently resulting in **severe maternal morbidity** or **fatal outcomes**.

Common Mistake



The Exam Trap:

~~Amniocentesis is a banned test in India.~~

The Truth:

The test is NOT banned. Sex determination misuse is banned.

Synthesis: Amniocentesis remains a fully legal, clinically vital procedure for diagnosing genetic disorders. Only its application to determine foetal sex is a statutory crime.



You've Learned the Theory.

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