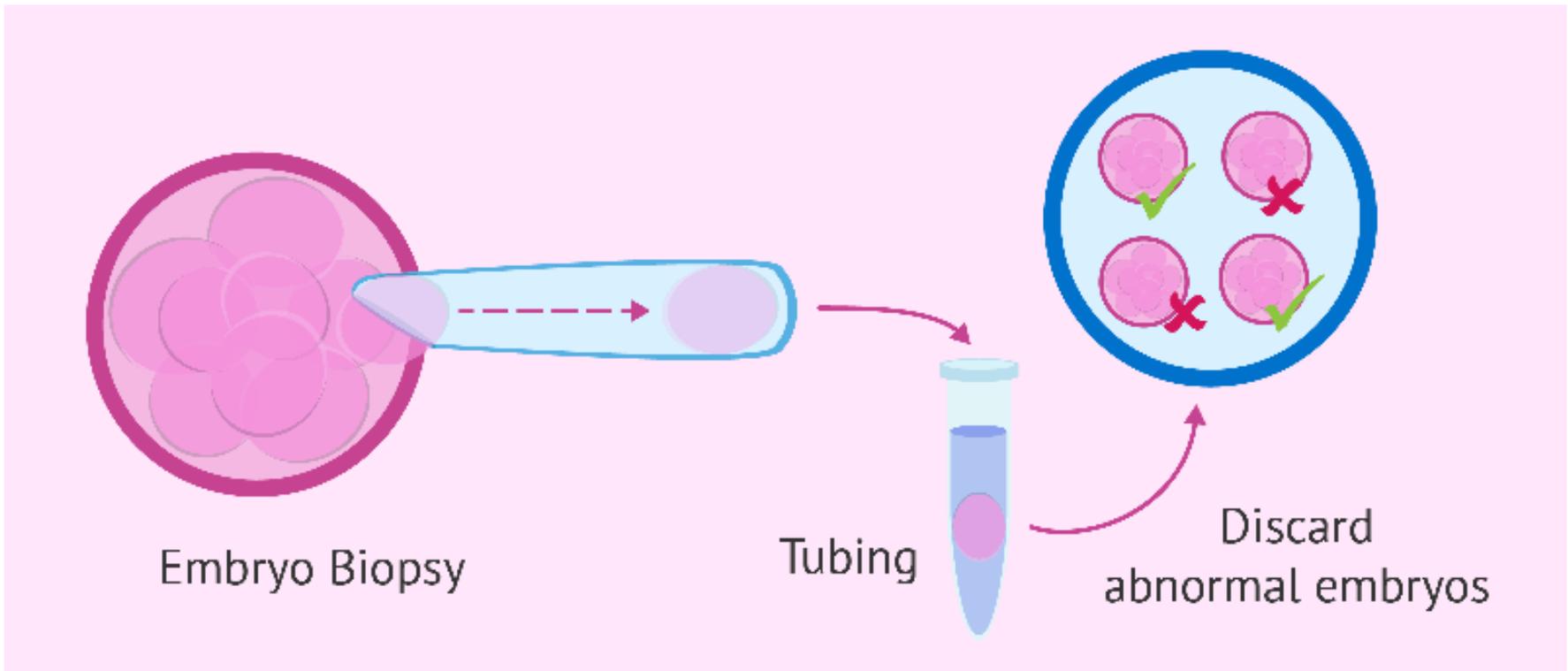


# Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD)



Preimplantation genetic testing is a procedure used to identify genetic defect in embryos created through in vitro fertilization (IVF) before pregnancy. [Preimplantation genetic diagnosis \(PGD\)](#) refers specifically to when one or both genetic parents has a known hereditary abnormality and difficult is performed on an embryo to determine if it also carry a hereditary abnormality. In contrast, preimplantation genetic screening (PGS) refers to procedure where embryos from presumed chromosomally normal genetic parents are screened for aneuploidy.

Because only unaffected embryos are transferred to the uterus for implantation, preimplantation hereditary testing provides an alternative to current post formation diagnostic procedures, which are frequently followed by the complex decision of pregnancy execution if results are critical. PGD and PGS are currently the only option available for avoiding a high risk of having a child affected with a genetic disease prior to implantation.

**Two main techniques are used for the genetic assessment:**

**Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) :** PCR, multiple copies of the gene of interest are made by a procedure of amplification. This magnification process allows the recognition of very small amounts of DNA to make the diagnosis.

**Fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH) :** FISH allow the laboratory to count the number of chromosomes in an isolated cell. This procedure is used primarily for predictable abnormalities in chromosome number, such as Down syndrome, or translocations (defects in the structure of the chromosome).

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