

Patient information factsheet

Wessex fetal and maternal medicine unit

Patient's name..... Appointment date.....

Appointment time.....

You have been asked to come in for a scan at the Wessex fetal and maternal medicine unit at the Princess Anne Hospital. At the unit we care for women and their babies during difficult or high-risk pregnancies.

We provide and interpret detailed scans of the fetus (the baby in the uterus), such as heart scans. We work with paediatricians (specialist children's doctors), surgeons and other specialists who may be involved in caring for you and your baby before and after delivery. We also have specialist midwives and a consultant nurse available to support you and your family, and work together with your hospital.

We may offer you further tests such as an amniocentesis test (testing the amniotic fluid) or chorionic villus sampling (CVS) (testing cells from the placenta). We also offer intrauterine (in the uterus) treatment for some fetal conditions.

Your scan appointment

When you come in for your scan appointment, please bring:

- your appointment letter
- your obstetrics notes

If your scan is before 14 weeks please have a comfortably full bladder for your appointment. After 18 weeks you do not need to arrive with a full bladder.

Please bear in mind that space in the scan rooms is limited. Due to the nature of the work in our department, it is not appropriate to bring children to your appointment.

When you arrive at the Princess Anne Hospital, follow the signs to the ultrasound department on E level and go to the ultrasound reception desk.

At the unit we train midwives, doctors specialising in obstetrics and medical students, and they may find it helpful to observe your scan. We usually only let a maximum of two people observe. Please let us know if you would prefer not to have any observers present.

During the examination

Your examination will be performed by a consultant or an experienced specialist registrar. The consultation and examination usually take at least 30 minutes.

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The problems we see vary in complexity and some consultations may take longer. In order to give everyone the time they need, it is not always possible to keep to appointment times. We hope you understand if you have to wait.

During the scan we will be recording images of your baby, which will be stored securely, and may be used for your treatment or possibly for teaching purposes. If they are used for teaching, your name and details will be hidden. If there are any fetal abnormalities (unusual symptoms for the baby), the national congenital abnormality database (NCARDS) will be notified.

The fetal and maternal medicine team

Consultants	David Howe Karen Brackley Matthew Coleman Jillian Connor Raji Parasuraman Tara Selman	Fetal cardiologists	James Gnanapragasam Kevin Roman David Black Tara Bharucha
		Specialist midwives	Jackie Kerr Alison O'Brien
Consultant nurse	Sally Boxall		

Our office is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. An answer-phone service is available outside of these hours or if no one is available.

Other information

Parking

You can pay to park in the public car parking attached to the Princess Anne Hospital. The car park is often very busy so please allow plenty of time to park.

We recommend using public transport if possible. Unilink U9 and U6, First Bus 3 and 2a and Bluestar 18 buses stop in and around Southampton General and Princess Anne Hospitals.

Telephone numbers

Consultant nurse/midwives 023 8120 6025 Secretaries 023 8120 4228 / 4727

Website www.uhs.nhs.uk/OurServices/Maternityservices/FetalMedicineUnit/

Getting here

Please enter through the main Princess Anne Hospital entrance on E level and follow signs to the ultrasound department.

Princess Anne Hospital, Coxford Road, Southampton SO16 5YA

If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audio tape, please telephone 023 8120 4688 for help.