

## Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

# Leaflet for Teenage Girls

Why are teenage girls being asked if they might be pregnant before they have their operation, X-ray or treatment?



## Why is it important for the doctors and clinical staff to know if a teenage girl might be pregnant?

Many medical procedures, investigations and treatments carry a **risk** to an unborn baby and/or a pregnant woman. This is especially important at the beginning of a pregnancy when they might not even know that they are pregnant.

## Why are we asking teenage girls to have a pregnancy test?

Current national guidelines advise us to make sure that it is safe for them to have an operation, X-ray or treatment. We will therefore ask their **consent** to do the pregnancy test. If for any reason the doctor or nurse feels the girl is not able to make that decision we will ask someone with Parental Responsibility to agree to the test. This might normally be a parent.

We will perform a pregnancy test on **girls aged 12 and older** where appropriate.

## So how do we carry out a pregnancy test?

A pregnancy test can be carried out using either a urine or blood sample.

Testing will be carried out on the day of admission for the procedure. In most cases the **urine test** is sufficient and the result will be available within five minutes.

## What happens next?

We aim to treat all information strictly confidentially but sometimes we have to share the information with other healthcare professionals. We might need to ask some more detailed questions in private.

### If the test is negative (the girl is not pregnant)

We will tell her the result.

## If the result is positive (she might be pregnant)

We might need to repeat the test to make sure the result is correct.

A positive pregnancy test in teenage girls under 16 raises concerns about safeguarding. This will be explained in detail where appropriate.

If a teenage girl is found to be pregnant, the doctor looking after her will explain the next steps in detail, and will make sure that she is safe and has **maximum help and support**.

She will be referred to the Young Parents Midwife for further help and advice. The midwife works in the St Mary's Hospital and is contactable directly through telephone or email (Tel: (0161) 2764245, emails: [Jocelyn.Ellis@cmft.nhs.uk](mailto:Jocelyn.Ellis@cmft.nhs.uk), [ypg.specialistmw@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:ypg.specialistmw@mft.nhs.uk)).

## Can you refuse to have the test?

Yes, you have the right to refuse the test. In this case we will need to ask some more detailed questions in private. However, it is likely that the procedure, investigation or treatment you are about to have may be delayed or cancelled. You will be able to discuss this with the doctor, nurse or healthcare practitioner who will help to find the best solution.

## What can you do if you think you might be pregnant?

You could talk to our doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals anytime.

Alternatively you could visit the **Brook** website ([www.brook.org.uk](http://www.brook.org.uk)) which provides free and confidential information or **Brook Manchester** ([www.brookmanchester.org.uk](http://www.brookmanchester.org.uk), Commonwealth House, 81 Lever Street - near Great Ancoats Street, M1 1FL, Tel: (0161) 237 3001).

## No Smoking Policy

Please protect our patients, visitors and staff by adhering to our no smoking policy. Smoking is not permitted in any of our hospital buildings or grounds, except in the dedicated smoking shelters in the grounds of our Hospital site.

For advice and support on how to give up smoking, go to [www.nhs.uk/smokefree](http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree).

## Translation and Interpretation Service

It is our policy that family, relatives or friends cannot interpret for patients. Should you require an interpreter ask a member of staff to arrange it for you.

تنص سیاستنا علی عدم السماح لافراد عائلة المرضى او اقاربهم او اصدقائهم بالترجمة لهم. اذا احتجت الی مترجم فیرجی ان تطلب ذلك من احد العاملين لیرتب لك ذلك.

ہماری یہ پالیسی ہے کہ خاندان، رشتہ دار اور دوست مریضوں کے لئے ترجمہ نہیں کر سکتے۔ اگر آپ کو مترجم کی ضرورت ہے تو عملے کے کسی رکن سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کے لئے اس کا بندوبست کر دے۔

ইহা আমাদের নীতি যে, একজন রোগীর জন্য তার পরিবারের সদস্য, আত্মীয় বা কোন বন্ধু অনুবাদক হতে পারবেন না। আপনার একজন অনুবাদকের প্রয়োজন হলে তা একজন কর্মচারীকে জানান অনুবাদকের ব্যবস্থা করার জন্য।

Nasze zasady nie pozwalają na korzystanie z pomocy członków rodzin pacjentów, ich przyjaciół lub ich krewnych jako tłumaczy. Jeśli potrzebują Państwo tłumacza, prosimy o kontakt z członkiem personelu, który zorganizuje go dla Państwa.

Waa nidaamkeena in qoys, qaraaboamasaaxiiiboaysanu tarjumikarinbukaanka. Haddiiaad u baahatotarjumaankacodsoxubinka mid ah shaqaalahainaykuusameeyaan.

我们的方针是，家属，亲戚和朋友不能为病人做口译。如果您需要口译员，请叫员工给您安排。



@MFTNHS



Follow us on  
Facebook

[www.mft.nhs.uk](http://www.mft.nhs.uk)

© Copyright to Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

TIG 86/15 Produced May 2018 Review Date May 2020 (SF Taylor CM16534)