

Information for Patients

The Fetal Medicine Unit

Why have I been referred to the Fetal Medicine Unit?

The Fetal Medicine Unit is a specialist part of Saint Mary's Hospital in Manchester. We see pregnancies in which the baby (fetus) might have complications. Women are referred to the Fetal Medicine Unit for a variety of reasons. These include:

- A possible problem seen in the baby on scan.
- Problems with a previous baby.
- Certain medical problems in the mother or father of the baby.
- Attending for a chorionic villous sampling (CVS – taking a sample of tissue from the placenta) or amniocentesis (taking a sample of fluid from around the baby).

What will happen at my appointment?

You will be scanned by one of the doctors who specialise in fetal medicine and/or fetal heart scanning. The scan can take a varying amount of time depending on a number of factors, including the number of weeks pregnant you are, the position of the baby and whether you are pregnant with more than one baby.

After the scan, you will be taken to one of our counselling rooms and we will discuss the findings of the scan, the possible effects on your baby, any further tests that could be considered and the options and plan for your pregnancy.

If appropriate, we may discuss additional tests to check if your baby has normal chromosomes by chorionic villous sampling (CVS) or amniocentesis. These tests can sometimes be done at the same appointment or, in the case of amniocentesis, back at your local hospital. You do not need to make a decision on the same day and always have the choice to go away and think about your options.

How long will my appointment take?

Appointments can take from about 30 minutes to 1 hour, depending on the complexity of any problems identified and if a CVS or amniocentesis is performed.

Please be aware that appointments can sometimes be delayed if the preceding cases are complicated. We would ask you to try to be on time as late arrivals can significantly delay

the other appointments. Please let us know if you are running late or are unable to attend. The contact numbers are available on page 4 of this leaflet.

Who else will be at my appointment?

There will be a fetal medicine unit midwife with you in the scan and counselling room. There may be a doctor training in fetal medicine present.

We sometimes have people from other hospitals and universities, such as consultants, junior doctors, clinical genetics doctors, student midwives, medical students and genetic counselling students. Please let us know when you arrive if you would prefer that they were not present in the scan or counselling room.

Who can come with me?

We would suggest you bring at least one person with you. If you are having a CVS or amniocentesis, we may not be able to do these tests if there is no-one to look after you when you leave our hospital. More people can come if you wish, although they may not all be able to come into the scan room as there is limited space.

It is not advisable to bring children as the appointment can take some time and the discussion afterwards can sometimes be complicated and occasionally be upsetting or difficult.

What do I need to do prior to my appointment?

You can eat and drink as normal. It is preferable to have a full bladder especially for early scans (less than 20 weeks). There is a water fountain and cups in our waiting area.

How do I find you?

The address is Saint Mary's Hospital, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9WL. However, if using satellite navigation, please use postcode M13 0JH. You can download a map giving directions here: <http://www.cmft.nhs.uk/pdfs/saint-marys/map-hospitals.pdf>

By Road: Saint Mary's Hospital (part of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust) is next to The University of Manchester so following signs to Universities will assist you.

From the North (M6): Leave the M6 via the M61 and continue to the M60. Join the M60 and travel anti-clockwise to Junction 12 and join the M602. Then join the A57 Regent Road to the A57(M) Mancunian Way. Leave at the A34 Wilmslow sign, bearing left into the A34. Once on Upper Brook Street (A34) turn right at the 6th set of traffic lights into Hathersage Road.

From the Northeast (M62): Leave the M62 at Junction 18 and join the M60 (Manchester). Leave at the next Junction to join the A576 (Manchester Central). After approximately 1 mile, bear left at the traffic lights into the A665 Bury Old Road. At the 5th set of traffic lights

turn right (junction of the M.E.N. Arena) into Trinity Way, at the bottom of the hill turn left into Great Ducie Street. Drive down Deansgate and turn left into John Dalton Street (Halifax Building on the corner). Travel for approximately 1.5 miles and then turn right at the traffic lights into Hathersage Road.

From the South (M6): Leave the M6 at Junction 19 onto the A556 and then join the M56 at Junction 8 heading towards the Airport. Continue along the M56, which will continue as the A5103 (Princess Road). Turn right into the B5219 (Moss Lane East by the Brewery). Continue to the end and at the T junction turn left into the B5117 which is Oxford Road. Turn right at the next set of traffic lights into Hathersage Road.

From the South (M1): From the M1 join the M6 at Junction 19 and then follow directions from M6 (South).

From the West (M61 & M62): Leave the M62 at Junction 12 and join the M602 Salford. The end of the motorway will join the A57 Manchester, (becoming A57(M) after 1 mile). Leave the Mancunian Way, A57(M) at the A34 Congleton sign, bearing left into the A34. Once on Upper Brook Street (A34) turn right at the 6th set of traffic lights into Hathersage Road.

Parking

There are both Pay on Foot and Pay and Display car parking systems in operation where the parking fee is based on the length of stay.

The following car parking facilities are available:

- **Hathersage Road Multi-storey Car Park** - this is situated on the corner of Hathersage Road and Upper Brook Street. Access is from Hathersage Road. A Pay on Foot system is operated within this car park. (Three Pay on Foot machines).
- **Hathersage Road Car Park (middle of Hathersage Road)** - this small car park is situated directly across Hathersage Road. This is a pay and display car park (one Pay and Display machine).

Car Park Tariffs

The following tariffs apply to all the above car parks:

- 0-30 minutes Free
- 30 minutes-3 hours £2.50
- 3-6 hours £5.00
- 6-24 hours £15.00

Public Transport

The nearest train stations are Manchester Piccadilly and Oxford Road. There is a Hospital Shuttle Bus (147 bus) from Bus stop C, Fairfield Street outside Manchester Piccadilly Rail

Station which travels via the Universities to the Hospital every 10 minutes throughout the day. There is a bus stop immediately outside the main entrance to Saint Mary's Hospital.

From Oxford Road train station any of these buses will take you to the hospital (11, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 41, 42, 42A, 43, 44, 45, 46/47, 48, 50, 111, 130, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 147, 157, 191, 197, 223).

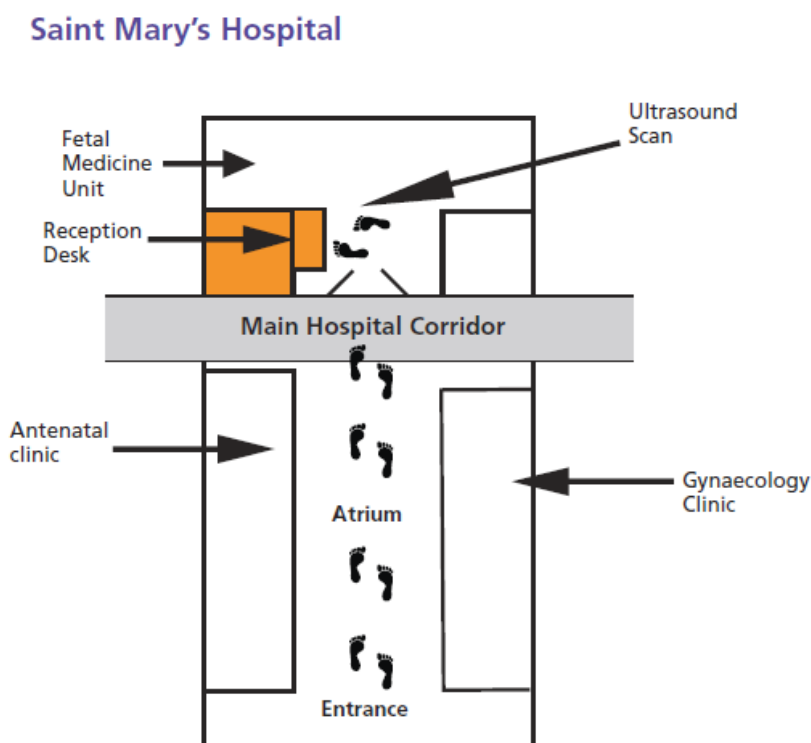
For further information on public transport links i.e. buses, trains and metrolink, contact Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM): <http://www.tfgm.com/>

Service information line **0161 228 7811** (open 7 days 8.00 am to 8.00 pm).

We are situated in the Ultrasound Department in Saint Mary's Hospital, Manchester. Please report to the Ultrasound reception desk on arrival.

You can download a map of the hospital site here:

<http://www.cmft.nhs.uk/media/390098/cmft%20web%20external%20map%20v23%208%20may.pdf>



How to contact us

Our telephone number **(0161) 276 6385**. We are open daily from Monday to Friday, 9.00 am-5.00 pm, but are closed at weekends and Bank Holidays.

There is a secure answer machine on which you can leave your name and telephone number and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Unfortunately we are unlikely to be able to give any information about the potential problem affecting your baby until we have scanned you.