Your referral to the
Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit

Accident & Emergency

patient information
Hearing about your experience of our services is very important as it means we can pass compliments to our staff and make improvements where necessary. Tell us what you think at feedback@rothgen.nhs.uk

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille or audio version, please contact Patient Information on 01709 424281 or email patientinformation@rothgen.nhs.uk
Following your attendance at the Emergency Department today, you have been referred to the Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit (EPAU), located at Rotherham Hospital at the end of Ward B11. This leaflet is to help you understand why this has been done, and what may be happening.

Why have I been referred to EPAU?
The EPAU is a specialist area in the hospital that deals specifically with problems in early pregnancy.

The most common problem is vaginal bleeding, with or without pain, but sometimes pain alone may be the only symptom. The staff in EPAU will be able to make a further, fuller assessment of the problems you are having, including a review of your symptoms, and a physical examination.

In some cases, but not all, it may also involve taking some blood tests or arranging for an ultrasound scan.

What might be wrong?
Small amounts of bleeding in early pregnancy are not uncommon, especially if they do not last for very long. However, it may be the first signs of a problem, such as a miscarriage, and it is important that we follow up on such symptoms. Should the bleeding be heavier or last longer, particularly if it is associated with period like cramping pains, then a possible miscarriage is more likely.
When will I be seen?
Usually we can organise for you to be seen within two or three days at the EPAU. Sometimes we can give you an appointment time whilst you are still in the Emergency Department, but more often we will organise for someone to phone you in the next 24 hours with your appointment details.

Should no one contact you within 48 hours, please phone the EPAU on the number at the back of this leaflet to make sure an appointment has been made.

What should I do whilst I’m waiting for my EPAU appointment?
Whilst waiting for your appointment, it is usually best to try and live as normally as possible. It is important to realise that once miscarriage has started, there is nothing that can be done to stop it.

Obviously if you feel a little faint or unwell, then resting would be sensible. Taking simple painkillers such as Paracetamol or Cocodamol for any back or abdominal pains you might have, is perfectly safe.

Should you develop very heavy bleeding, severe abdominal pain, fainting or a fever, you should seek help immediately by phoning 999 or coming back to the Emergency Department. For other, minor worries or problems, you should contact your GP or phone the NHS 111 Service on telephone 111.
Your referral to the Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit

Notes

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Your referral to the Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit

How to contact us
Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit (EPAU)
Telephone 01709 427072

Ward B11
Telephone 01709 424349

Switchboard
Telephone 01709 820000

Useful contact numbers
NHS 111 Service
Telephone 111
Health Info
Telephone 01709 427190
Stop Smoking Service
Telephone 01709 422444
A&E
Telephone 01709 424455
For GP out of hours, contact your surgery

Useful websites
www.nhs.uk
www.gov.uk
www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk

We value your comments
If you have any comments or concerns about the care we have provided please let us know, or alternatively you can write to:

Patient Services
The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Rotherham Hospital
Moorgate Road
Oakwood
Rotherham
S60 2UD
Telephone 01709 424461
Email complaints@rothgen.nhs.uk
How to find us

Hospital site plan

Rotherham main routes
The Rotherham
NHS Foundation Trust

Rotherham Hospital
Moorgate Road
Oakwood
Rotherham
S60 2UD

Telephone 01709 820000
www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk