

## How do I find out what is happening with the pregnancy?

There are several things that help to give you the answer. We will contact the NHS to arrange for them to see you and they will:

- Ask you questions about your symptoms.
- Examine you abdominally and vaginally.
- Take blood to assess your hormone levels. They will be looking at the levels of a hormone called HCG (this is the hormone that gives you a positive pregnancy test). This is a guide for what is happening in early pregnancy
- They will usually repeat the hormone level in 48hrs. This tells them if the hormone level is rising or falling and helps to guide what they do next.

## How long before I get any answers?

We know that this is an anxious time. Waiting and uncertainty are always difficult and stressful.

1. If the blood tests suggest an early pregnancy a further scan will be needed. It is common to allow the pregnancy time to grow, and usually the hospital will arrange this for you.
2. Sadly, in some women a miscarriage will be confirmed. A further scan may be advised to ensure the lining of the womb returns to normal and the hospital will arrange this for you.
3. If the blood tests don't suggest an early pregnancy or a miscarriage then the Doctors must consider that you have an ectopic pregnancy and so additional blood tests and scans may be needed.

We hope this information has helped but when you attend the hospital they will continue to give you their results and keep you informed.



'Instant Midwife' is a new service provided by Window to the Womb and Firstscan. Instant Midwife has the answers to the most common questions that are asked by expectant women. You'll find the Instant Midwife on Facebook Messenger.

If you need further advice please speak to your GP.