

INFORMATION LEAFLETS FOR PARENTS / CARERS OF A CHILD

INFORMATION FOR TEENAGE GIRLS



WHY AM I HAVING A PREGNANCY TEST BEFORE HAVING AN ANAESTHETIC ?

If someone is pregnant when they are having an operation, x-ray or special scan, it may cause harm to themselves, or to their unborn baby. This is especially true at the beginning of a pregnancy, when someone might not even realise they are pregnant. For this reason, we need to check before going ahead with the test or operation.

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME IF I MIGHT BE PREGNANT, I'M NOT SEXUALLY ACTIVE?

We understand that most teenage girls are not sexually active, so it is not possible for them to be pregnant. However, some girls are sexually active and feel afraid to say so. To ensure we care for everybody safely, we ask everyone who has commenced their periods to give us a urine sample on which we will carry out a pregnancy test. By doing this, we hope to prevent the possibility of causing harm to girls, or their pregnancy.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE PREGNANT WHEN I COME TO THE HOSPITAL?

It is important that you tell a nurse or doctor so that we can decide what to do next. Everything you tell us will be treated confidentially, which means that we will not tell anyone else without your permission.

You may be offered a pregnancy test, which is done by testing a sample of your urine.

Because the pregnancy test is not always reliable very early in a pregnancy, you may still be pregnant even if the result is negative. In this case, a doctor will talk to you about whether you should go ahead with your operation, x-ray, or special scan.



I'm not sure I really understand
all of this, what should I do?

Ask a nurse or doctor to explain anything that you are not clear about, they will be happy to help, and you can ask them to talk in private if you wish.

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