

**Information Governance Department**  
Wrightington Hospital  
Hall Lane  
Appley Bridge  
Wigan  
WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 256284  
Email: [foi@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@wwl.nhs.uk)  
Web: [www.wwl.nhs.uk](http://www.wwl.nhs.uk)

Ref: FOI2021/7323

Date Received: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Response Due: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

## **INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

### **You asked:**

**I am researching perceptions around Down Syndrome in antenatal care and would like to make a request for examples of communication sent to expectant women. Please can you send me examples of the following:**

- 1. Letters sent to expectant women advising of screening tests following combined/quadruple screen testing for Down Syndrome. I understand the letter may be different depending on whether results are low or high chance so please send examples of each.**

Please see attached for the lower chance letter – this is generated by the lab system – the copy isn't of the best quality so please accept our apologies. We contact women who have a higher chance result by phone and back up the discussion with an email – sample attached which is adapted to reflect the discussion.

- 2. Letters/results from Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT), again high and low chance examples if different.**

We do not currently offer NIPT but signpost women to ARC to discuss and obtain details of local private providers

**3. Examples of information e.g. letters, leaflets, signposting etc. shared with expectant women about these tests (combined/quadruple screening and NIPT).**

We give women the national *Screening Tests for You and Your Baby* booklet either paper copy or via the digital link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/screening-in-pregnancy-information-leaflets#screening-tests-for-you-and-your-baby>

This link is to the information regarding screening for Down syndrome:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-pregnancy-scan-brief-description/fetal-anomaly-screening-pregnancy-dating-scan>

**4. Any information shared with expectant women about Down Syndrome itself (including guidance on pregnancy/care when given an antenatal diagnosis).**

The woman would have a discussion with the screening midwife following diagnosis and signposted to the Down syndrome association via the following link: <https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/>

Women are then booked under the care of a named consultant for the remainder of their pregnancy.

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Rabina Tindale  
Chief Nurse & DIPC

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113