

# Information for Women Following Amniocentesis

## Patient Information

Obstetrics Services

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## General advice

Following your amniocentesis you are advised to rest and relax at home for the remainder of the day if possible. You do not need to go to bed and it is safe to have a bath or shower.

You may experience some abdominal / back discomfort or 'period type' pains. This is more common in the first 24 to 48 hours. Paracetamol is safe in pregnancy and can be taken to relieve this.

If you experience any of the following:

- Vaginal bleeding
- Loss of fluid from the vagina
- Pain that doesn't settle with Paracetamol, is prolonged or gets progressively worse
- Feeling generally unwell, feverish or have a high temperature

Contact the Delivery suite at Wigan Infirmary on 01942 778505 and speak to a Midwife (number available 24 hours).

## Results

The results come in 2 stages:

### Rapid result

It usually takes two to three working days to obtain the rapid result which checks for the 3 commonest chromosome problems Down's, Edward's and Patau's Syndromes. From time to time technical difficulties mean the result can take longer than this. Occasionally, it is not possible to obtain a rapid result but you will be informed if this is the case. If your amniocentesis was for a higher chance screening result with a normal scan, this will be the only result you will receive.

### Complete result

The result of all 23 pairs of chromosomes is usually available around 2 weeks after the sample was taken. This will **only** be available if there were abnormalities found on scan.

You can choose to receive your results by phone or face to face. This is your choice and we are happy to give the results in the way you feel is best for you. If you opt to receive your results by phone, please ensure we have the correct contact number for you in your records.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your results please contact the Antenatal Screening Midwife on 01942 774702 or 01942 774700.

Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

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## Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

## Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager  
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary  
Wigan Lane  
Wigan WN1 2NN

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## Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



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## How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our “how we use your information” leaflet which can be found on the Trust website: <https://www.wwl.nhs.uk>

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This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille and other languages upon request. For more information please ask in the department/ward.

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