

Pregnancy and Your Planned Surgery

Why do we ask about pregnancy?

As part of preparing you for an operation, we may ask whether there is any possibility that you could be pregnant. Knowing whether you are pregnant is important because pregnancy can affect decisions about your operation, anaesthetic and some investigations.

Why is this important?

Surgery and anaesthesia during pregnancy may carry risks for both you and your developing baby. The level of risk depends on factors such as the type and urgency of the operation, the type of anaesthetic and how far the pregnancy has progressed.

For this reason, **non-urgent surgery is generally avoided during pregnancy where it is safe to do so.** If you become pregnant or think you may be pregnant before your operation, your surgical and anaesthetic teams will discuss the risks and benefits with you and decide whether your operation should go ahead or be postponed.

What should I do if I become pregnant while waiting for my operation?

If you do become pregnant, or think you may be pregnant, **please contact your hospital or pre-operative assessment team as soon as possible to let them know.**

Please do not wait until the day of your operation to tell us. Your healthcare team will discuss your individual circumstances with you. Depending on the type and urgency of your operation, your treatment plan may need to be reviewed and your operation may need to be postponed.

Will I be asked about pregnancy again?

Yes. Even if you have previously had a negative pregnancy test previously, you may be asked about the possibility of pregnancy again before your operation.

NICE recommends that, on the day of surgery, people who could become pregnant are asked whether there is any possibility that they could be pregnant. If there is doubt, a pregnancy test may be offered with your consent.

Do I have to have a pregnancy test?

Pregnancy testing should be discussed with you and carried out with your consent when appropriate.

What if I think I might be pregnant?

Please tell a member of your healthcare team if:

- you think you may be pregnant or are unsure;
- you have a positive pregnancy test;
- your circumstances have changed since your pre-operative assessment; or

You can ask to discuss this privately with a member of the healthcare team.

Further information

Please visit the Royal College of Anaesthetists website for further information on the topic.

Patient FAQs | The Royal College of Anaesthetists

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Pre-operative Assessment Clinic
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary
Telephone: 01484 342527

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਚ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਭੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم المذكور أعلاه"