

The Fetal Medicine Department

Information for patients who have had Amniocentesis

You have had an amniocentesis. If possible you should rest for the remainder of the day and the following day. It is not necessary to stay in bed but you should try to avoid lifting, carrying, or any strenuous exercise.

The first part of your result (The PCR test) looking at the 3 more common chromosome differences should be available in 3 to 4 working days. You will be notified of these results by telephone.

The full chromosome analysis should be available within 3 weeks and, if they are normal, **you will be notified by post as soon as they are ready.**

If any abnormality should be found, the laboratory will notify the midwives in Fetal Medicine. They will then phone you at home to explain the problem and will have an appointment for you to see your Consultant.

If, at the time of your amniocentesis, you requested to know the sex of the baby, this information will be sent to your consultant and filed in your hospital notes. It will be available for you at your next hospital visit. You should phone your consultants office if there are any problems arising from this.

Amniocentesis and your 20 week (mid-trimester) scan appointment

Your mid-trimester scan and clinic appointment may be arranged so that they are before we would expect your amniocentesis results to be ready.

Some women may want to attend their clinic appointment and scan even though their amniocentesis results are not yet available. Others may wish to attend for scan and clinic after they have received the amniocentesis result.

If you wish to change your clinic appointment you may call at the reception desk in outpatients, or telephone the Medical Records Clerk on 0121 627 2650. The medical records clerk will notify ultrasound if your scan appointment needs to be changed.

Should you attend any of the special clinics such as diabetic clinic or rhesus clinic, it is important you do NOT change any appointments you have there.

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