

Molar Pregnancy

Gestational trophoblastic disease

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید، لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formacie, proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil, vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

What is a molar pregnancy?

A molar pregnancy is a rare condition that can develop during pregnancy and is often referred to as Gestational Trophoblastic Disease or Hydatidiform Mole.

Trophoblasts are the cells that form the placenta. In Trophoblastic Disease there is an abnormal overgrowth of part or all of these cells.

As with skin moles, a hydatidiform mole is often harmless but if left untreated, can continue to grow and possibly spread to other parts of the body.

How is a molar pregnancy diagnosed?

A molar pregnancy can also be suspected during an Ultrasound Scan, but the diagnosis is made by a specialist doctor, called a pathologist when they look at a placenta under a microscope. This is routinely done following any treatment for a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy.

What treatment will I have?

You will usually have a least one minor operation to enable evacuation of the uterus, this is sometimes known as evacuation of retained products of conception (ERPC) this is to ensure that all the molar pregnancy has been removed from your womb.

How will I be followed up?

Follow up involves measuring the levels of the pregnancy hormone called Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG) in urine samples or occasionally in the blood.

Pre-paid boxes are provided for you to post your samples to the screening centre, including full instructions on how to collect the urine samples. Initially you will be asked to provide a urine sample every week, but this might change and you may be asked to provide a blood sample which can be taken at your local hospital.

If your HCG levels fall quickly then you will be followed up for only 6 months otherwise it may be longer.

When can I try for another baby?

You will be advised **not** to become pregnant during your follow up period as it can make it difficult for the screening centre to monitor your progress properly. Pregnancy too soon following a trophoblastic disease may also increase the risk of recurrence or re-activation of the mole.

What happens if I do become pregnant during follow up?

If you become pregnant during your follow up period, you will need this to be confirmed by an ultrasound scan. The centre in Sheffield will be informed by your consultant or you can notify them yourself, and your follow up will be suspended. This will resume 6 weeks following delivery.

Am I likely to have another molar pregnancy?

It is rare to have a second molar pregnancy; the vast majority of women go on to have normal pregnancies following a molar pregnancy.

More information

If you have any questions about any information in this leaflet or wish to discuss things further, please contact:

Buchanan Suite
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am – 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday 9am – 12 noon
(Excluding bank holidays)
0151 290 4356

or

Gynaecology Ward (3E) on 0151 430 1522 (24hrs)

Alternatively, information and support can be accessed from the below websites:

Sheffield Teaching Hospital – www.molarpregnancy.co.uk

Miscarriage association – www.miscarriageassociation.org.uk



**Mersey and West Lancashire
Teaching Hospitals**
NHS Trust

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshall Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA
Telephone: 01744 26633

www.MerseyWestLancs.nhs.uk