

Ref. No: FOI0136
Date: 17/07/2023
Subject: Pregnancy and miscarriage

REQUEST

Request for Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust information only

1. How many early pregnancy units do you have within your health Trust? Please can you provide the opening times of those early pregnancy units?
2. Do you have any dedicated recurrent pregnancy-loss clinics or recurrent miscarriage clinics within your health Trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?
3. Do you have any dedicated pregnancy-loss clinics or miscarriage clinics (i.e. for non-recurring losses) within your health Trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?
4. How many recurrent miscarriages would an individual need to experience before being entitled to an investigation into the causes?
5. What mental health support do you offer for people affected by miscarriage?

RESPONSE

Response for Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust information only

1. How many early pregnancy units do you have within your health Trust? Please can you provide the opening times of those early pregnancy units?

One. We are a Midwife / Nurse led unit with direct access to consultant support and are open Monday / Friday 08.30 – 16.30hrs. Any women requiring emergency care can attend the Gynae Assessment Bay (GAB) 24/7. The EPAU scan diary is kept on GAB out of hours in order that they can access scan slots as required.

- 2. Do you have any dedicated recurrent pregnancy-loss clinics or recurrent miscarriage clinics within your health Trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?**

Please see response to question three.

- 3. Do you have any dedicated pregnancy-loss clinics or miscarriage clinics (i.e. for non-recurring losses) within your health Trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?**

Yes. All women who have suffered two miscarriages are offered recurrent miscarriage investigations with our EPAU. These ladies need their investigations titrating with their monthly cycle and are accommodated on any day between Monday / Friday. All investigations including mid cycle trans-vaginal ultrasound are done within EPAU by the midwife or nurse. Results obtained and at that point a consultant appointment is arranged to formulate a plan for any future pregnancy. A copy of the debrief is sent to EPAU and when the lady has a positive pregnancy test she is advised to contact EPAU to initiate that plan.

The consultant face to face reviews of any lady to discuss results of recurrent miscarriage investigation are accommodated on Mrs. Rajesh's Gynae Clinic. Appointments are easily accessible, and our ladies are seen in a timely manner.

- 4. How many recurrent miscarriages would an individual need to experience before being entitled to an investigation into the causes?**

Two miscarriages (and they do not have to be consecutive).

- 5. What mental health support do you offer for people affected by miscarriage?**

All ladies diagnosed with miscarriage via EPAU are debriefed at the point of diagnosis. Supportive literature regarding miscarriage and pregnancy loss is provided. Patient information literature is provided with regards to the management options available to these ladies and they are encouraged to go home and consider their options in order that they are making an informed choice.

We provide contact details and literature for the Miscarriage Association / Cradle and Lighthouse.

EPAU form part of the Trust's bereavement group, we work closely with our designated bereavement midwife, and we follow and adhere to the NBCP standards.