

# Pregnancy testing - why am I being asked?

Pregnancy testing allows us to investigate and treat you safely. This leaflet gives basic information about pregnancy testing and why it is important.

We will happily discuss more with you in person and give you a chance to ask questions and discuss concerns.

## Who needs a pregnancy test?

- At the Royal Hospital for Children in Glasgow it is our policy that all people whose biological sex is female, and are aged 12 years and older, have a pregnancy test if they:
  - » Have abdominal (tummy) pain
  - » Are having a surgical or medical procedure
  - » Are having special types of scans
  - » Are taking certain medications
- This policy is used across the UK.

## Why is it important?

- Abdominal pain can be caused by being pregnant.
- Having an operation, x-ray, special scan or treatment when you are pregnant may cause you and possibly an unborn baby harm.

## How do you do a pregnancy test?

- If you agree, we will ask you for a urine sample which we will test to see if you are pregnant. The result will come back in approximately 10 minutes.
- If this is not possible or the result is unclear we may need to do a blood test.

## What happens if the pregnancy test is positive?

- We will come and tell you the result and then make a plan together of how we can best help and support you.
- We may need to speak to other members of our team about your safety but we will speak to you first.

Author: Dr Harriet Sansby and Preassessment Nurse Practitioner Mairi Gall

Document Owner: Dr Graham Bell

Review Date: September 2024