

Emergency Gynaecology Clinic – Information for General Practitioners

We are delighted to inform you that we have started an Emergency Gynaecology Clinic for Gynaecology at Southmead Hospital from Monday 4th October.

The aim of this service is to offer a more efficient service to our patients and also increase the efficiency in our department and potentially reduce inpatient admissions.

I hope the following FAQs will answer your questions:

When will the service run?

We will be running the clinic Monday to Friday from 1330 to 1600. We will have 5 'slots' each afternoon so the patients will be given a time to attend the ward.

This clinic will run in addition to the current Early Pregnancy Clinic which will continue to run in the normal way each weekday morning.

Who can be referred?

We will still be operating within the major and minor take system. This means that on Monday and Tuesday we will accept all new referrals with a gynaecological problem.

Wednesday and Thursday we would continue to accept all patients known to us at Southmead who have been seen within the last 6 months for the same problem or operated on within the last 6 weeks.

Fridays is part of the weekend for 'take' purposes and we are on major take 1 out of 4 weekends.

We will accept referrals from General Practitioners, Accident and Emergency Department and other specialties within the trust.

Pregnancy problems in women greater than 18 weeks pregnant and within 6 weeks of delivery should be referred to the Obstetric ST1/2 on call.

We would aim to offer an appointment within 24 hours of referral. If this is not possible as the clinic is booked then the patient would need to be admitted to the ward in the normal way.

Any acutely unwell patient should be referred and admitted immediately in the usual way

How do we refer?

All referrals are accepted via the Gynaecology ST1/2 on call. They are contactable via switchboard on 0117 9505050.

The Doctor on call will be able to give you the appointment time for your patient or discuss whether the patient needs to be admitted more urgently.

Who will see the patients?

The patients will be seen initially on arrival by a nurse or Health care assistant who will perform their observations and urinalysis / pregnancy test.

They will then be seen by either the Gynaecology SHO or Registrar. There will be a senior trainee (ST3 or above) available to see the patients with the junior trainee (ST1 or 2) and this will allow greater support and teaching for the junior members of the team but also we hope improve the efficiency and decision making for the patients.

There is always a Consultant on-call for Gynaecology but they may be in theatre or outpatients but would be available for advice and assistance where needed.

What investigations will be performed?

As we are aiming to provide a 'one-stop' service we have the facility to perform an ultrasound scan as part of their visit if this is considered necessary.

Investigations such as blood tests and swabs or urine tests that are outstanding will be followed up by the clinic and communicated to the patient where a significant positive result is found. Patients and General Practitioners will be informed in the discharge letter of any outstanding investigations.

What information will the General Practitioners receive?

Communication with the patients General Practitioner is essential. We have a discharge proforma that we will fax to the General Practice on the day so they are informed of the outcome of the visit.

The outcome for the patient may be admission, discharge with GP follow up or discharge with Gynaecology follow up. We will give the patient a copy of the discharge letter that is faxed to the General Practitioner.

If you have any questions or suggestions then please contact me by email:

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With best wishes

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