

Information Leaflet



Liverpool Women's
NHS Foundation Trust

Why Have I Been Referred to the Fetal Medicine Unit?

Your sonographer suspects or has found an issue with your scan today. This could be related to your baby, your placenta or your cervix. The sonographer will explain to you the reasons for their concerns but the exact nature of the issue may not be clear at this stage. You will be offered an appointment to see a specialist consultant in the Fetal Medicine Unit at the Liverpool Women's Hospital. At this appointment they will assess the issue further via a specialist scan.

What is the Fetal Medicine Unit?

Most pregnancies progress without any complications. However, sometimes a mother or her unborn baby needs extra care from our highly experienced Fetal Medicine team - made up of specialists including fetal consultants, midwives and healthcare assistants. As a specialist unit within Liverpool Women's, we receive many referrals from health professionals throughout the North West and further afield.

When Will I Be Seen?

We aim to offer you an appointment within 3-5 working days from your ultrasound scan in our Fetal Medicine Unit. However, if your baby is suspected as having a problem needing specific multidisciplinary input you may wait a little longer in order to see the appropriate professionals.

What Happens Next?

We know this is a worrying time for you and your family. We are aware that it is very stressful waiting for a follow up scan to clarify the findings. You will be contacted by a Fetal Medicine Midwife by telephone or post to inform you of the date of your appointment as soon as possible.

Who Can I Contact For Further Information & Support?

- Fetal Medicine Unit 0151 702 4072 9-5pm Monday to Friday
- Antenatal Results & Choices (ARC) – a national charity helping parents and healthcare professionals through antenatal screening and its consequences - 020 7713 7356 or use this web address: <https://www.arc-uk.org>

This leaflet can be changed into different languages and formats using the tools on the website. Please note when translating information into different languages via the website, some information may need clarifying for accuracy with a member of staff. This leaflet can be formally translated on request via our Patient Experience Team, although response times to have information translated can vary. To request formal translation services or if you would like to make any suggestions or comments about the content of this leaflet, please contact the Patient Experience Team on 0151 702 4353 or by email at pals@lwh.nhs.uk

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust
Crown Street
Liverpool
L8 7SS
Tel: 0151 708 9988
Ref: Mat_2025-154-v3
Issue Date: 15/01/2025
Review Date: 30/01/2028
© Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust