



Message from the Chair of Association of Early Pregnancy Units regarding Covid -19 outbreak in the UK

With increasing pressure on the NHS due the covid 19 pandemic, it is extremely likely that most early pregnancy units will have to limit the service they provide. This is to minimise the risk of exposure to the Coronavirus caused by coming into a hospital environment, reduce the risk of spread within the hospital and because of reduced staff caused by sickness, self-isolation and redeployment into emergency care. There are likely to be limits on ultrasound scans and any non-emergency surgical procedures under general anaesthetic.

If you are currently pregnant we know this will make some of you very anxious, but you can still call your local EPU if you need urgent advice and be assured if you require emergency care for severe pain or heavy PV bleeding then you will be seen within the EPU or by the emergency on-call Gynaecology team.

There's general up to date information and guidance at www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/covid-19-virus-infection-and-pregnancy/. And you can contact the Miscarriage Association for information & support. They won't give medical advice but their still here to help you through. <https://www.miscarriageassociation.org.uk/how-we-help/>

If you are currently not pregnant but planning on trying for a baby, please consider waiting until the pandemic is over before stopping your contraception. This is to minimise the burden on the health service and because it is too soon to fully understand the effect of the virus in pregnancy.