

# BabyVision

## What can you expect to see on your early pregnancy reassurance scan

In early pregnancy, lower abdominal pain and/or vaginal blood loss can be early symptoms of a miscarriage. We strongly recommend that if you experience these symptoms you should contact your GP urgently for early pregnancy assessment. Early pregnancy can be very complicated. Here is a guide as to what to expect during the early stages.

### **Six weeks pregnant:**

Within the womb there is a small pregnancy sac measuring about 1-2cm in diameter. Inside this area, there may be a small yolk sac which is the first signs of a pregnancy. Closer to 7 weeks a very small embryo may be seen however, still measuring only a few millimetres in size, seeing the heartbeat can be extremely tricky.

### **Seven weeks pregnant:**

The embryo usually measures 10 – 20 mm and a heartbeat can be seen clearly.

### **Eight weeks pregnant:**

The embryo is now a fetus and measures 20 – 30 mm in length and a heartbeat is clearly visible. A brain can be seen to start forming and sometimes the beginnings of arms and legs can be identified.

### **Ten weeks pregnant:**

The fetus now measures 35 – 40mm and can sometimes be seen moving.

### **Eleven weeks pregnant and onwards:**

The fetus is now measuring approximately 4.5 centimetres and can distinguish its head, body and limbs. The heart can be seen beating in the chest area and the stomach, bladder and cord insertion are visible.



We routinely perform a transvaginal ultrasound scan for early pregnancy assessment.

Sadly sometimes ultrasound appearances don't quite fit in with the stage we expect them to be. We follow the Royal College of Gynaecologists guidelines (RCOG, 2012) and so in these circumstances we would work with the RUH Early Pregnancy Assessment team following appropriate referral pathways in place should they be required.

**Important contact numbers:**

If you experience any pain or bleeding (up to 14 weeks in pregnancy) come to our Early Pregnancy Assessment Clinic (EPAC) Open Monday – Friday, 8am – 9am

To make an appointment with a midwife or change an appointment call: 01225 825973

To contact our Maternity Screening Department call: 01225 821503 (Mon – Fri) or email: [ruh-tr.babyvision@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.babyvision@nhs.net)

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Please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) if you require this leaflet in a different format, or would like to feedback your experience of the hospital. Email [ruh-tr.PatientAdviceandLiaisonService@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.PatientAdviceandLiaisonService@nhs.net) or telephone 01225 825656.