

Patient information

Information for parents who experience pregnancy loss

Our condolences

The loss of a pregnancy can be a deeply distressing experience. As a hospital we would like to offer our deepest sympathies for your loss.

It can be hard to take in information, to make decisions or to imagine how you are going to cope. The health professionals caring for you will provide support and guidance through this sad time.

What happens next?

You are suddenly faced with having to make decisions you never expected to make. It may feel difficult to know what to do. However, it is important you should be able to take time to think about what is right for you.

The health professionals caring for you will help you to talk through options and make decisions.

Are there tests or investigations that can be done?

Investigations may be offered if required. The health professionals caring for you can explain the details and gain your consent for these investigations.

Funeral arrangements

Should you feel it's appropriate, you can arrange the funeral privately, or the West Suffolk Hospital will be pleased to undertake this on your behalf.

We offer a burial through the Woodlands Burial Trust in Culford near Bury St Edmunds (see separate information leaflet).

You will be offered the details of the date and time of the ceremony and you are welcome to attend or you can be informed of the burial site location, if you wish to know.

A member of the Hospital Chaplaincy Team will provide committal for the burial.

An individual casket will be placed with others in one large casket for burial.

A funeral service can also be arranged in the Hospital Chapel if requested, and you can choose to take part in this service if you wish. Relatives and friends are most welcome to attend.

Book of Remembrance

A special book of remembrance is kept in the Hospital Chapel. Families are invited to place an entry in the book at any time. This can be arranged through the Chaplaincy Department or the Bereavement Officer. The book is permanently on display, in a glass cabinet, in the Chapel itself. The pages are turned frequently.

Service of Remembrance

An annual service of 'Remembering and Sharing' is held in the Hospital Chapel. The service is for all who have lost babies and children, sons and daughters, whatever their age. Everyone is welcome, no invitation is necessary. The service is usually held in November. For the date and time of the next service, please contact the bereavement support office or chaplaincy team during office hours.

Support

For support following early pregnancy loss, please contact 01284 713235. Members of the Hospital Chaplaincy Team and the Bereavement Officer can be contacted via the Hospital switchboard, telephone: 01284 713000.

Your GP will be informed of your loss following your discharge from the ward/ gynaecology department.

A variety of leaflets from national support groups are offered. These provide comprehensive information, telephone numbers and web sites you may find useful.

Support organisations

The Compassion Friends

The Compassion Friends is an organization run by bereaved parents and their families offering understanding, support and encouragement to others after the death of a child or children.

Telephone: 0345 123 2304

Email: helpline@tcf.org.uk

www.tcf.org.uk

The Miscarriage Association

Provides information and support for women who have suffered a miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy or molar pregnancy.

Helpline: 01924 200799

Email: info@miscarriageassociation.org.uk

www.miscarriageassociation.org.uk

Petals

Pregnancy Expectations Trauma and Loss Society provides a specialist counselling service dedicated to the psychological care and wellbeing of the clients.

Telephone: 0300 688 0068

Email: counselling@petalscharity.org

www.petalscharity.org

The Samaritans

The Samaritans provide confidential non-judgmental emotional support, 24-hours a day, seven days a week including Christmas and Bank Holidays for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair.

Freephone: 116 123

Email: jo@samaritians.org

www.samaritains.org

The Samaritans Bury St. Edmunds and West Suffolk Branch

Local telephone: 0330 094 5717

The Ectopic Pregnancy Trust

The Ectopic Pregnancy Trust care and support for families experiencing the trauma of ectopic pregnancy.

Telephone: 020 7733 2653

Email: ept@ectopic.org.uk

www.ectopic.org.uk/

Molar pregnancy: Charing Cross Hospital

This weblink provides information from Charing Cross Hospital, the hospital which specialising in molar pregnancies.

https://hmole-chorio.org.uk/patients_info/

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo) <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>



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