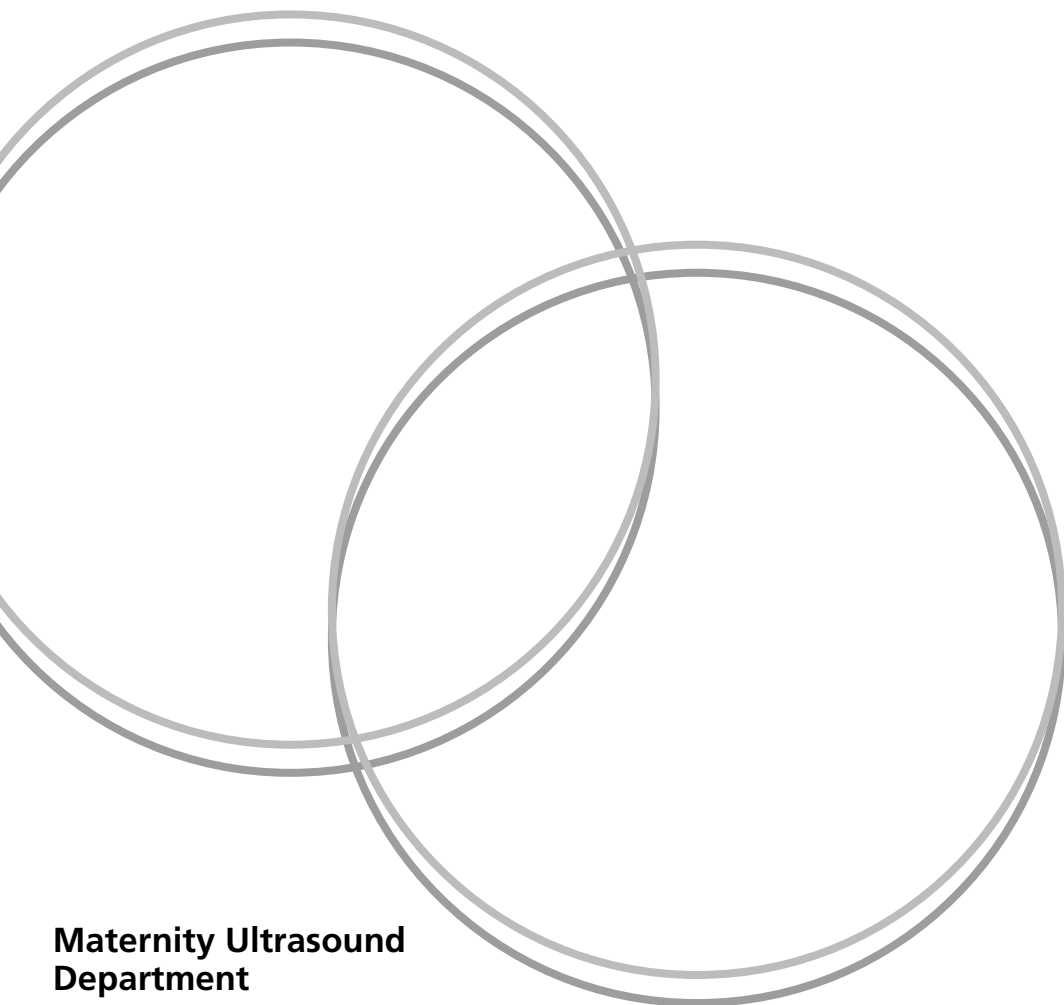




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

The mid-pregnancy anomaly scan

Information for parents-to-be



Maternity Ultrasound
Department

You have been given this leaflet to read alongside the booklet '**Screening tests for you and your baby**' (produced by the National Screening Committee). Please speak to your midwife if you have not been given a copy of this booklet.

You can also access this information by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/screening-tests-for-you-and-your-baby/11-physical-conditions-20-week-scan>

A mid-pregnancy anomaly scan forms part of the Antenatal Screening Programme that is offered to all pregnant women. It usually takes place between 18+0 and 21+6 weeks of pregnancy. The purpose of the anomaly scan is to check the development of your baby and to detect any physical abnormalities that your baby may have developed. It is important to understand that it is not possible to detect every anomaly by ultrasound.

The anomaly scan is offered to everybody, but you do not have to have it if you do not want to.

As part of the scan we will also look at the blood flow between you and your baby through the placenta. This can give us information about how well the placenta is working. This part of the scan is called a uterine artery Doppler test.

Sometimes this test may show that you and your baby would benefit from extra scans and closer monitoring.

Preparation

Please bring your blue maternity notes with you. We suggest that you wear something comfortable which can be adjusted so that we can scan the lower part of your abdomen (tummy).

Who can I bring with me for my anomaly scan?

It is a good idea for your partner or support person to accompany you for your scan. Children are not permitted to attend the scan with you.

Please refer to the OUH website for the most up to date information on appointments and scans.

Scan pictures

If you would like scan pictures you can purchase scan picture tickets at the machine in the waiting room. Please give the ticket to the sonographer in exchange for your pictures. Payment is by card only.

Sometimes it can be difficult to get a good picture if the baby is lying in an awkward position, is moving around a lot or if you are above average weight.

Sex of the baby

You may be expecting to find out the sex of your baby, but please remember that this is not the purpose of the scan and we do not routinely look for a baby's sex. If you wish to know the sex of your baby and the sonographer can see, they will be happy to give you their opinion.

The sonographer's opinion as to the sex of your baby may not always be accurate – sometimes the way the baby is lying can reduce the accuracy of what can be seen during the scan.

It is therefore possible that, when your baby is born, it will be a different sex to that which you were expecting based on the sonographer's opinion.

In light of the known challenges around the accuracy of assessing the sex of a baby during routine antenatal screening, Oxford University Hospitals is not liable for any loss incurred as a result of reliance on the sonographer's opinion as to the sex of your baby.

Results

The majority of scans will show that the baby is developing as expected.

However, if an anomaly is found (or suspected) during the scan, the sonographer may refer you to a fetal medicine doctor for a second opinion.

This follow-up appointment may not be on the same day. We will let you know when it will be.

If you have a raised body mass index (BMI) it can be more difficult to get more images during the scan. This may mean that we cannot see your baby very clearly or that the measurements may not be as accurate.

After your scan

If you require further scans or appointments this will be discussed and planned with you.

At Oxford University Hospitals we also offer all women a scan to check baby's growth at around 36 weeks of pregnancy.

Research

At the John Radcliffe Hospital there is a University of Oxford Research Department (the Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance – OSPREA) attached to the Maternity Ultrasound Department. One of the research midwives may ask if you would like to take part in one of their studies. This is voluntary, you do not have to take part in any research studies if you do not want to. For more details please visit www.osprea.ox.ac.uk

Questions and further information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us on the telephone numbers below, or speak to your midwife or you can email us at maternity.ultrasound@ouh.nhs.uk

Maternity Ultrasound Department

Level 4, Women's Centre
John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, OX3 9DU

Tel: **01865 221 715**

Maternity Ultrasound Department

Antenatal Clinic
Horton Maternity Unit, Banbury, OX16 9AL

Tel: **01295 229 464**

For further information please visit:

www.ouh.nhs.uk/maternity/resources

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Ultrasound Specialist Midwife
May 2021
Review: May 2024
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information



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