

**NHS Forth Valley
Maternity Services**

HIV

Routine Antenatal Screening in Pregnancy

Patient Information

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of two overlapping, stylized blue waves. The waves are light blue and have a soft, rounded appearance, creating a sense of movement and flow.

Routine HIV Screening in Pregnancy

The aim of this leaflet is to provide you with information on HIV and how to protect your baby.

What is HIV?

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. This virus attacks the immune systems, which eventually means that it can no longer fight infection. Many people infected with HIV can look and feel well for many years before developing symptoms or discovering that they have been infected.

How is HIV Passed On?

HIV is passed on by sexual contact, needle sharing and blood transfusion from HIV infected persons although all blood distributed by the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service is screened for HIV.

A woman who is HIV positive can pass this on to her baby during pregnancy, labour and when breastfeeding. Treatment given to the mother throughout her pregnancy could prevent the baby developing HIV. Prompt and effective treatment will reduce risks of the baby contracting the virus from 25% to less than 2%.

How Does HIV Affect Babies?

Babies can develop chronic disease but early treatment of the mother during pregnancy and of the baby after birth, can reduce the chances of HIV being transmitted.

How is the Test Carried Out?

HIV testing is offered as part of the recommended routine antenatal blood tests. However, it may take three months from contact with the virus for the blood test to become positive.

What if the Result is Positive?

A positive result means you have HIV. This does not mean you have AIDS. You will be given support, including follow up for you and your baby.

Do I Have to Have the Test?

No, you do not have to have the test, although it is recommended. The test assists early diagnosis and treatment of women who are HIV positive.

How Will I be Given the Results?

If the result is negative, you will normally be informed of this at your first antenatal visit following the test. If there are problems with any of your routine blood tests your Team Midwife will contact you and advise on follow-up. This contact will be either verbal or written depending on what you wish. If the HIV test is positive you will be given an appointment with the appropriate consultant to discuss your future health care.

If I Have the HIV Test, How Will it Affect Such Things as Insurance Policies and Mortgage?

As it is recommended by the Scottish Executive and is carried out as part of routine antenatal screening it is not perceived as a risk. Having an HIV test will have no affect on your existing or future policies. However, any positive result for infection may need to be declared on insurance health questionnaires and could have insurance implications. You may wish to check your policy for further details.

If You Wish More Help or Information Contact:

Terence Higgins Trust
Positively Women
National AIDS Helpline

0141 332 3838 (www.tht.org.uk)
020 7713 0222 (www.positivelywomen.org.uk)
0800 567123

You can obtain the service of an interpreter or have this document translated in your own language by contacting the interpreting services on 0845 130 1170. These services are available free of charge.

ਤੁਸੀਂ, 0845 130 1170 ਤੇ ਦੁਬਾਜ਼ੀਆ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ (interpreting services) ਨੂੰ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਹ ਦੁਬਾਜ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਜਾਂ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦਾ ਆਪਣੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿਚ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਲੈ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ। ਇਹ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਮੁਫਤ ਹਨ।

آپ 0845 130 1170 پر انٹریپرٹنگ سروس سے رابطہ کر کے کسی مترجم کی خدمات حاصل کر سکتے ہیں یا اس دستاویز کا ترجمہ اپنی زبان میں کرا سکتے ہیں۔ یہ خدمات مفت دستیاب ہے۔

您可以通過撥打翻譯服務熱綫 0845 130 1170 取得翻譯員服務或得到此文件的翻譯版本。 這些服務都是免費的。

Galite prasyti vertejo paslaugu arba gauti sita dokumenta isversta I jusu kalba kreipdamiesi I musu vertimo paslaugu biura skambindami 0845 130 1170. Sitos paslaugos yra nemokamos.

يمكنك الحصول على خدمة الترجمة الفورية أو القيام بترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى لغتك الأصلية عن طريق الإتصال بخدمات الترجمة الفورية على رقم 0845 130 1170. هذه الخدمات متاحة مجاناً بدون أى مقابل مادي.

Dzwoniąc do biura tłumaczeń pod numer 0845 130 1170 możecie Państwo prosić o tłumacza albo otrzymać ten dokument przetłumaczony na wasz język ojczysty. Powyżej wymienione usługi są darmowe.

If you, or someone you know, would like this in an alternative format, such as audiotape or large print then please phone us free on 0800 456033, fax your request to 01786 470984 or email us at yourhealthservice@fvhb.scot.nhs.uk

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED ON NHS FORTH VALLEY PREMISES

This includes corridors, doorways, car parks and any of our grounds. If you do smoke on NHS premises you may be liable to prosecution and a fine.



Carseview House, Castle Business Park,
Stirling FK9 4SW
Tel: 01786 463031 Fax: 01786 451474
www.nhsforthvalley.com

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