

## **Maternity** Services

We're here for you from the very start of your pregnancy through to the birth of your baby and beyond.



# **Medical Disorders in Pregnancy**

Are you a woman with a medical disorder? Medical disorders in pregnancy can be problematic. It is important to be well-informed and well-prepared for pregnancy

#### **FAQs**

- How will pregnancy affect my disease?
- How will pregnancy affect my baby?
- Does my treatment carry any risk for my baby?
- Can I deliver normally with my medical condition?

### **Prepregnancy counselling, PPC**

Many of these questions can be answered if you attend for PPC with a maternal medical specialist. Your own medical specialist may also have discussed these issues with you.

PPC should happen months before you plan to conceive so you have time to make treatment changes or optimize the control of your medical condition. A maternal medical specialist will work with your own specialist and your GP to provide the best care for you in pregnancy. This approach is described as multidisciplinary and collaborative.

You will be fully involved in all the decisions made by the team handling your care. This team may involve other healthcare professionals such as specialist nurses, dieticians and physiotherapists as appropriate. Together we can decide the best time to try for pregnancy. You may need a change of medication and time to settle on it before considering pregnancy. We can discuss the implications of pregnancy for your baby. We can also discuss the likely mode of delivery.

Most medical disorders do not prevent normal delivery but this is planned on an individual basis and in some cases, the timing and type of delivery may need to change depending on what happens during the pregnancy.

Your GP will refer you to the Obstetric Medicine Clinic at the Whittington for PPC and advice about your care in pregnancy.

#### **Obstetric Medicine Clinic**

Clinic hours Mondays 9.00am - 12.30pm

Antenatal Clinic, level 5, Kenwood Wing, Whittington Hospital.

After PPC you will be far better informed about the implications of pregnancy. Once you are pregnant your own consultant may refer you to the Obstetric Medicine clinic if additional care and advice is necessary.

We look forward to achieving an excellent outcome for you and your baby.