

# Welcome to the Fetal Medicine Unit

Information and advice for patients

## Maternity

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The Fetal Medicine Unit at Midland Metropolitan University Hospital provides a range of expertise and ultrasound scans for pregnant women under the care of Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust or Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

### Your scan appointment – what to expect

The Specialist Consultants and midwife sonographer perform detailed ultrasound scans. It may be possible that more than one person will scan your baby during your visit if there is training occurring at that time. This is nothing to worry about as our hospital is a teaching hospital.

Your partner, a relative or close friend may accompany you. We recommend that you arrange for your children to be cared for at home as it is easier to discuss any issues arising from your scan if children are not present. However, your children are welcome if childcare is not possible.

The entrance to Midland Metropolitan University Hospital, is at level 0. You will then need to take a lift to level 5. Here you will find our welcome Centre and Winter Garden. From level 5 you will then need to take the yellow lift C to level 3, where you will locate the fetal medicine unit in the same area as Antenatal assessment unit.

It is important you arrive on time for your appointment and book in at reception. Take a seat in the waiting room and you will be called by the midwife or support worker.

Urgent and high-risk patients who attend the Fetal Medicine unit may require longer than their allocated time, and this can delay appointment times.

You will be informed of any delays, so please do not knock on the clinic doors.

If your pregnancy is earlier than 16 weeks, please attend your appointment with a full bladder to optimise your scan.

### After Your Scan

When your ultrasound scan is complete the Consultant and/or specialist midwife will explain what has been seen on the scan.

If any problems are found this will be fully explained and you will have time to ask questions and discuss this with the Consultant and/or the specialist midwife.

If you need a follow-up appointment, you will be given this before you leave the department. You will be given a detailed report of the scan findings, and this will also be sent to your local hospital team responsible for your pregnancy care.

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## Further tests

Sometimes additional tests (e.g amniocentesis or blood tests) may be offered. These will be discussed in detail with you and written information will be provided. Tests are optional and we understand that you may need time to consider your decision. It may be possible to perform these additional tests on the same day as your scan if this is what you decide to do. Following the test, you will be told when the test results will be ready, and how you will be informed of the results.

## After your appointment

When your appointment is over you will be given a contact telephone number for the Fetal Medicine midwives and support worker who are available from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Please do not be put off if an answer machine picks up your call, leave a message with your contact details and one of the team will get back to you when they are free.

## What to do if you have any unusual symptoms after your FMU appointment

Contact triage at:

- Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust on 0121 507 4340
- Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust on 01384 456111 extension 3053

## Fetal Medicine Contact details

0121 507 5812

Mobile number 07779777132

For more information about our hospitals and services please see our website [www.swbh.nhs.uk](http://www.swbh.nhs.uk), follow us on X @SWBHnhs and like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/SWBHnhs](http://www.facebook.com/SWBHnhs).

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Incorporating the Midland Metropolitan University Hospital, City Health Campus, Sandwell Health Campus and Rowley Regis Hospital.

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M8096

Issue Date: March 2025

Review Date: March 2028