

**Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 15 February 2021.

I am pleased to confirm the following.

**1. Letters sent to expectant women advising of screening tests following combined/quadruple screen testing for Down Syndrome. I understand the letter may be different depending on whether results are low or high chance so please send examples of each.**

- a. For lower chance screening results, letters sent following combined/quadruple screening are sent direct from Oxford University Hospital screening laboratory. We do not have the facility to print a blank template, as they are generated from OUH IT system.
  - i. They do not send higher chance results, we are informed via generic email, and have access to the IT system, which we monitor each working day.
- b. Higher chance results are verbally provided to the women, either face-to-face or via the telephone (women are offered the choice), we will then provide a copy of the report of the result.

**2. Letters/results from Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT), again high and low chance examples if different.**

- We do not currently offer NIPT on the NHS, women are sign posted to relevant information, including Antenatal Results and Choices (ARC).
- Many of our women opt for the Harmony test, which is completed via Babybond locally.
- We do not provide the women with the NIPT result, they are provided the result direct from the laboratory.
- If a higher chance result, the laboratory will contact us direct prior to informing the woman, for her to be able to contact us direct for any further testing.

**3. Examples of information e.g., letters, leaflets, signposting etc. shared with expectant women about these tests (combined/quadruple screening and NIPT).**

- a. All women booking for antenatal care receive/sign-posted to 'Screening Tests for You and Your Baby' leaflet, available on PHE website in several languages and in 'easy read' versions.
- b. Sign-posted to ARC, NHS choices and Public Health England.

**4. Any information shared with expectant women about Down Syndrome itself (including guidance on pregnancy/care when given an antenatal diagnosis).**

- a. They are offered a joint appointment with Consultant Obstetrician and Consultant Paediatrician.
- b. They are offered an appointment with the Lead Infant Feeding midwife.
- c. They are provided with Down Syndrome support group information.

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If you are unhappy with the information received in response to this request, please address your complaint to the Patient Affairs Office at Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD. If, after exhausting our internal process, you are still unhappy with the information received, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Co-ordinator  
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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