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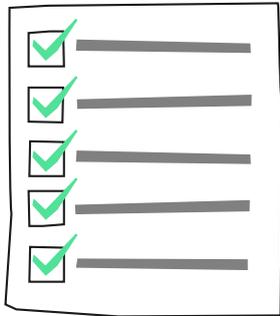
First tests and scans

Easy Read resource

This resource is available
in multiple languages.
Ask your midwife for
more information.



First tests and scans



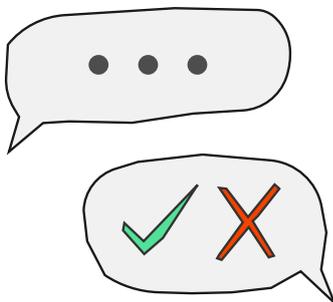
Your midwife will offer you checks when you tell us you are pregnant.

These are for the health and safety of you and your baby. They include blood tests and scans.



Checks happen at different times during your pregnancy.

Your midwife will tell you when these will happen.

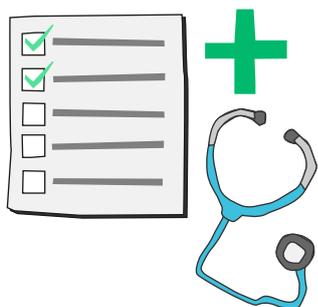


You might have the same test more than once. This is to check everything is okay with you and your baby.

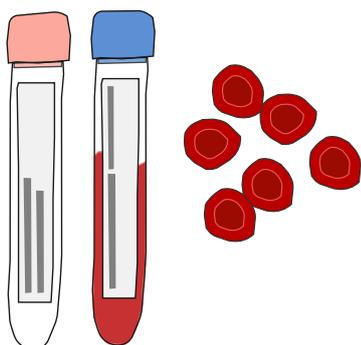
You can say yes or no to having a blood test or scan.

First tests and scans

Blood tests and vaccinations



Tests carried out by your GP practice or midwife are free.

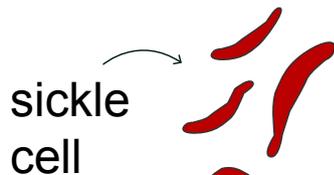


Blood tests will check for:

- Sickle cell disease and thalassaemia
- Blood type
- Rhesus status
- Infections

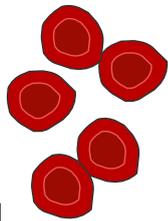
First tests and scans

Blood tests and vaccinations



sickle cell

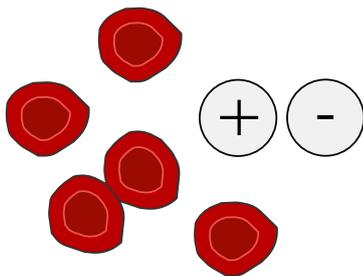
Sickle cell disease is when it is hard for the blood to move around the body.



normal red blood cell

Blood might get stuck which can be dangerous for you and your baby.

You will need extra checks if you have sickle cell disease.

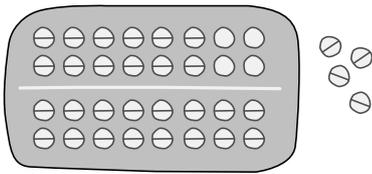


Rhesus status checks to see if you have a protein in your blood.

If you are rhesus negative you will need other checks to keep your baby safe.

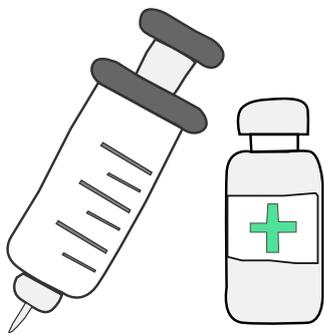
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Blood tests and vaccinations



Infections include hepatitis B, syphilis and HIV.

If you have an infection, your care team will offer you treatment. You can ask questions about your treatment choices.



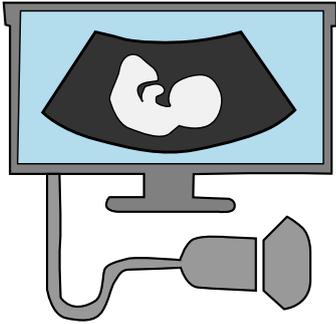
Vaccinations help keep you and your baby safe.

Your care team will check which vaccinations you have had.

They will ask if you want to have vaccinations to protect you and your baby.

First tests and scans

Scans



There are different reasons why you might have a scan. An early pregnancy scan checks:

- The size of your baby
- The heartbeat
- Where your baby is
- How many babies you are having
- If your baby is growing well



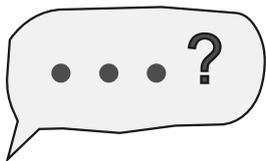
A nuchal translucency scan (NT) looks at the space at the back of your baby's neck.

This checks for:

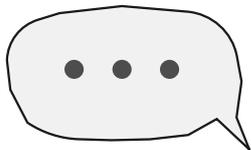
- Down's syndrome
- Edwards' syndrome
- Patau's syndrome

First tests and scans

Scans



Your midwife will tell you if there is anything you need to do before these checks.



You can ask your midwife questions.



All checks are carried out by trained professionals.

They can support you to understand the results and what happens next.

You have a right to make decisions about your care.

First tests and scans



Sometimes you might need extra help during your pregnancy. Talk to your care team if there is anything you are worried about.

This will help plan to keep you and your baby healthy.

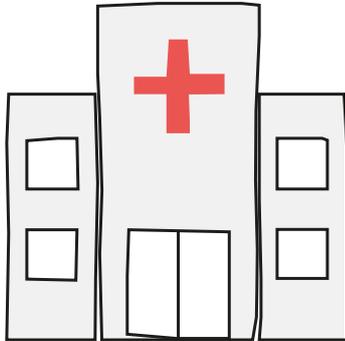


Click on the link below to see when to call the midwife.

If you do not have internet ask your midwife to print you a copy.

tommys.org/pregnancy-information/health-professionals/free-pregnancy-resources/poster-when-call-midwife

First tests and scans



You may need to call your midwife during your pregnancy. You can do this using one of the numbers below. Ask your midwife if you are not sure which hospital they work at.



- Conquest Hospital, St Leonards
0300 131 4500
- Eastbourne District General Hospital
0300 131 4500
- Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton
01273 696955
- Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath
01444 441881
- St Richard's Hospital, Chichester
01243 788122
- Worthing Hospital
01903 205111
- East Surrey Hospital
01737 768511

First tests and scans

For further information to support you during pregnancy, please see:

Pregnancy-related conditions – NHS
[nhs.uk/pregnancy/related-conditions](https://www.nhs.uk/pregnancy/related-conditions)

Vaccinations in pregnancy – Tommy's
[tommys.org/pregnancy-information/im-pregnant/antenatal-care/vaccinations-pregnancy](https://www.tommys.org/pregnancy-information/im-pregnant/antenatal-care/vaccinations-pregnancy)

What tests will I have in pregnancy – Tommy's
[tommys.org/pregnancy-information/im-pregnant/antenatal-care/what-tests-will-i-have-during-pregnancy](https://www.tommys.org/pregnancy-information/im-pregnant/antenatal-care/what-tests-will-i-have-during-pregnancy)

National FGM support clinics – NHS
[nhs.uk/conditions/female-genital-mutilation-fgm/national-fgm-support-clinics](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/female-genital-mutilation-fgm/national-fgm-support-clinics)

If you do not have the internet you can ask your midwife to print you information from any of the links above.