

# Pregnancy

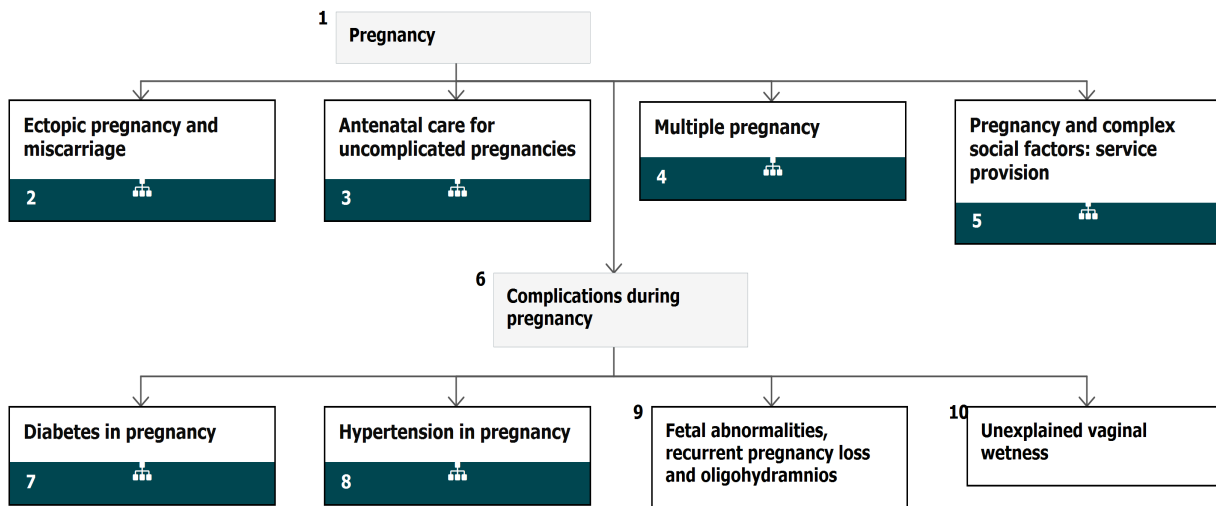
NICE Pathways bring together everything NICE says on a topic in an interactive flowchart. NICE Pathways are interactive and designed to be used online.

They are updated regularly as new NICE guidance is published. To view the latest version of this NICE Pathway see:

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/fertility-pregnancy-and-childbirth>

NICE Pathway last updated: 08 May 2018

This document contains a single flowchart and uses numbering to link the boxes to the associated recommendations.



**1 Pregnancy**

No additional information

**2 Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage**

[See Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage](#)

**3 Antenatal care for uncomplicated pregnancies**

[See Antenatal care for uncomplicated pregnancies](#)

**4 Multiple pregnancy**

[See Multiple pregnancy](#)

**5 Pregnancy and complex social factors: service provision**

[See Pregnancy and complex social factors: service provision](#)

**6 Complications during pregnancy**

No additional information

**7 Diabetes in pregnancy**

[See Diabetes in pregnancy](#)

**8 Hypertension in pregnancy**

[See Hypertension in pregnancy](#)

## 9 Fetal abnormalities, recurrent pregnancy loss and oligohydramnios

### Fetal abnormalities

NICE has published interventional procedures guidance on the following with **special arrangements** for clinical governance, consent and audit or research:

- [fetal cystoscopy for the diagnosis and treatment of lower urinary outflow tract obstruction](#)
- [fetal vesico-amniotic shunt for lower urinary tract outflow obstruction](#)
- [insertion of pleuro-amniotic shunt for fetal pleural effusion](#)
- [percutaneous laser therapy for fetal tumours](#)
- [percutaneous fetal balloon valvuloplasty for pulmonary atresia with intact ventricular septum](#).

NICE has published interventional procedures guidance that [percutaneous balloon valvuloplasty for fetal critical aortic stenosis](#) should only be used in the context of **research**.

### Recurrent pregnancy loss

NICE has published interventional procedures guidance on [laparoscopic cerclage for prevention of recurrent pregnancy loss due to cervical incompetence](#) with **special arrangements** for clinical governance, consent and audit or research.

### Oligohydramnios

NICE has published interventional procedures guidance on [therapeutic amnioinfusion for oligohydramnios during pregnancy \(excluding labour\)](#) with **special arrangements** for clinical governance, consent and audit or research.

## 10 Unexplained vaginal wetness

### Vision Amniotic Leak Detector to assess unexplained vaginal wetness in pregnancy

The following recommendations are from NICE medical technologies guidance on [Vision Amniotic Leak Detector to assess unexplained vaginal wetness in pregnancy](#).

The case for adopting the Vision ALD, when issued by a midwife or other healthcare worker, is supported by the evidence. The available evidence suggests that the device can reliably

exclude amniotic fluid leak as a cause of vaginal wetness in pregnancy, avoiding the need for a speculum examination and its associated discomforts. Using the device in the community could prevent unnecessary referrals to secondary care antenatal day units or maternity triage services for speculum examinations, releasing clinical time.

The Vision ALD should be considered for use in pregnant women with unexplained vaginal wetness.

Based on cost modelling, using the Vision ALD is estimated to be cost saving in scenarios considered to be clinically likely, by avoiding the need for referral to an antenatal day unit. When issued by a midwife or other healthcare worker in a primary care setting, cost savings per woman of up to £24.01 (for PROM) and £18.25 (for PPROM) could be achieved. When issued by a community midwife in a woman's home, Vision ALD is associated with an estimated cost saving of up to £21.01 per woman for PROM and £15.25 per woman for PPROM.

## Glossary

### ALD

amniotic leak detector

### PPROM

preterm prelabour rupture of membranes

### PROM

prelabour rupture of membranes

## Sources

[Vision Amniotic Leak Detector to assess unexplained vaginal wetness in pregnancy \(2013\)](#)

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## Your responsibility

### Guidelines

The recommendations in this guideline represent the view of NICE, arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available. When exercising their judgement, professionals and practitioners are expected to take this guideline fully into account, alongside the individual needs, preferences and values of their patients or the people using their service. It is not mandatory to apply the recommendations, and the guideline does not override the responsibility to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual, in consultation with them and their families and carers or guardian.

Local commissioners and providers of healthcare have a responsibility to enable the guideline to be applied when individual professionals and people using services wish to use it. They should do so in the context of local and national priorities for funding and developing services, and in light of their duties to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to reduce health inequalities. Nothing in this guideline

should be interpreted in a way that would be inconsistent with complying with those duties.

Commissioners and providers have a responsibility to promote an environmentally sustainable health and care system and should assess and reduce the environmental impact of implementing NICE recommendations wherever possible.

### **Technology appraisals**

The recommendations in this interactive flowchart represent the view of NICE, arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available. When exercising their judgement, health professionals are expected to take these recommendations fully into account, alongside the individual needs, preferences and values of their patients. The application of the recommendations in this interactive flowchart is at the discretion of health professionals and their individual patients and do not override the responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or their carer or guardian.

Commissioners and/or providers have a responsibility to provide the funding required to enable the recommendations to be applied when individual health professionals and their patients wish to use it, in accordance with the NHS Constitution. They should do so in light of their duties to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to reduce health inequalities.

Commissioners and providers have a responsibility to promote an environmentally sustainable health and care system and should assess and reduce the environmental impact of implementing NICE recommendations wherever possible.

### **Medical technologies guidance, diagnostics guidance and interventional procedures guidance**

The recommendations in this interactive flowchart represent the view of NICE, arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available. When exercising their judgement, healthcare professionals are expected to take these recommendations fully into account. However, the interactive flowchart does not override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

Commissioners and/or providers have a responsibility to implement the recommendations, in their local context, in light of their duties to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations. Nothing in this interactive flowchart should be interpreted in a way that would be inconsistent with compliance with those duties.

Commissioners and providers have a responsibility to promote an environmentally sustainable health and care system and should assess and reduce the environmental impact of implementing NICE recommendations wherever possible.