

## Examples of Implementation

### Pre-Procedure Pregnancy Testing

We are keen to hear from units which have successfully implemented the guidance and are happy to share tips and examples of their work in this area. Please contact [health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk](mailto:health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk) if you would like to contribute

#### Example 1 - Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust.

Our pregnancy assessment policy was developed at RNOH prior to the publication of guidance from the College, in response to local audit findings. This took place through an interdisciplinary consultation process that systematically identified barriers to assessment and addressed them. It was complemented by the introduction of a clear assessment tool that was incorporated into the hospital's pre-procedure and pre-operative checklists and production of the 'Teenage Pregnancy' patient information leaflet which facilitates approaching the topic and encourages confidential discussion with staff. The Teenage Pregnancy booklet has been in use for the last 2 years. We have found that it has facilitated discussion about this topic with adolescents admitted to our hospital. We would also be happy to share our assessment tool and policy with any other Trusts who may find it useful.

We were pleased to find out after the publication of the RCPCH guidance that we fulfil all its recommendations. Our only comment – for interest to other trusts implementing the guidance - is that there is insufficient emphasis on the possibility of a false negative urine test which may occur at very early stages of pregnancy. The flowchart focusses on pregnancy testing rather than obtaining clinical information on the date of LMP, whether the menstrual period is overdue or whether there is indeed any possibility of pregnancy. There is therefore a possibility that the flow chart will encourage the abandonment of this line of clinical assessment in favour of testing all patients which risks missing an early pregnancy with a false negative urine test.

Contact for more information :

[Dr Roxaneh Zarnegar](#), Consultant in Anaesthesia and Pain Management

[Dr Susan Lowery](#), Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia