

Comments, compliments and complaints:

We aim to provide the highest possible standard of healthcare for people using our service. If you have a comment or suggestion to make, or you are dissatisfied with the care provided, please let us know. We will do our best to respond quickly, in accordance with the Trust Policy.



The Fetal Heart Service Team
consists of
**Cardiologists, Sonographers
and Cardiac Nurse Specialists.**

Leeds General Infirmary is a teaching hospital and sometimes there are staff who are training in clinic. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you would prefer them not to be present during your scan.

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Trust

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The Fetal Heart Service

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Pre Natal Diagnosis

The aim of this leaflet is to give you some information prior to your appointment for a fetal heart scan.

The reason for your scan is because either:

- Your local hospital suspects a heart problem.
- There were difficulties visualising your baby's heart during your routine scan.
- Your local hospital suspected other abnormalities with your baby.
- There is a family history of heart problems.
- Maternal problems such as diabetes and other conditions requiring medication.

If we do find a problem it means we can make plans for delivery and discuss treatment options well in advance of your baby's birth.

What is a fetal heart scan?

A fetal heart scan is similar to a normal ultrasound scan. It is harmless to you and your baby and usually takes up to 30 minutes to complete. If your baby is lying in a difficult position it may take longer!

It is not necessary to have a full bladder.

The purpose of the scan is to help us identify any problems with the structure, function or rhythm of your baby's heart.

A Consultant will discuss the results with you as soon as the scan is completed.

If we do discover a problem we will discuss:

- The precise nature of the heart condition.
- Any treatment that may be needed following delivery.
- The general long term outlook.

You will be given written information about your baby's condition and follow up appointments may be arranged so we can monitor the baby and reassure you. Written information will also be sent to your obstetrician, GP and midwife/ ante-natal clinic.