

# Attending the combined scan clinic

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You have been referred to the combined ultrasound and paediatric clinic so we can make a plan for the birth of your baby. We understand how stressful this situation is for parents and it can be difficult to remember information you are given, so if possible please bring someone to support you at the appointment. It is always a good idea to write down any questions you may have beforehand and bring them with you to the appointment.

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## Who will be at the appointment?

The purpose of this appointment is for your baby to be thoroughly examined by a consultant obstetrician (pregnancy doctor), an associate specialist in ultrasound (scan doctor) and a consultant neonatologist (baby doctor). This ensures good communication between the two different teams (maternity and paediatrics), and ensures that you will be given a proper explanation of what will happen before and directly after your baby is born.

One of the screening midwives will also be present. They are there to liaise with other departments and is your point of contact if you need further information. As a lot of conditions we are seeing are unusual, we sometimes have junior doctors or trainee midwives there so that they can learn about them too.

## What will happen at the appointment?

The appointment will last about 30 minutes but this could be longer if the issues is particularly complex, or if it is difficult to get clear views on the scan. Sometimes, babies just aren't in the right position for us to see what we need, and we will give you another appointment to have another look.

Once the scan of your baby is finished, the consultant neonatologist will discuss with you the plan of care for your baby once they have been born.

A letter outlining this plan then goes into your hospital notes and a copy will be sent to you at home. A letter is also sent to your GP and community midwife to keep them informed. If necessary, another appointment will be made before you leave the hospital to attend the following combined clinic (they are held once a month). Otherwise, you will be seen in the hospital or community as appropriate.

**Your next appointment is:** \_\_\_\_\_

You can telephone the screening midwives Monday to Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on **07768 752 563** or **0118 322 8507 / 7292**.

## Resources for support

Antenatal Resources and Choices - National helpline Mon – Fri: 10am – 5:30pm 020 7713 7486  
[www.arc-uk.org](http://www.arc-uk.org)

To find out more about our Trust visit [www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk](http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk)

**Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.**

Antenatal Screening Coordinator, July 2009

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