Pre-op assessment prior to an elective caesarean section

Maternity Services/Antenatal Clinic

Antenatal Day Unit
01625 661729
Your Caesarean Section has been booked for

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Prior to your Caesarean Section you will need to attend for a Pre-operative Assessment. Please attend on:-

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At........................................on Antenatal Day Unit/Maternity Unit (delete as appropriate)

**Pre-Operative Assessment**

This Assessment will normally take place the day before your elective caesarean section.

- You do not need to starve for this appointment
- You do not need to bring your hospital bag
- Your assessment may take between 1 – 1 ½ hours
- Please bring with you your hand held notes/care plan
- Please bring with you any medication you are currently taking
- Write down any questions and/or queries you may have so that we can discuss with you at this appointment.

At the appointment you will be seen by a Midwife and a Doctor:

- You will be given a full explanation about your caesarean section and given the opportunity to ask any questions or concerns you may have.
- The Midwife will explain what routine procedures will occur from the pre-op assessment until your discharge from hospital following your caesarean section.
- The Midwife will check your temperature, pulse and blood pressure and listen to your baby’s heart.
- The Doctor will take an up-to-date full medical history from you and will examine your heart and lungs as part of the assessment of your general health.

- A blood sample will be taken to check for anaemia, to check your urea and electrolytes and also to recheck your blood group and antibodies. This is necessary should you need to have a blood transfusion at the time of delivery or following. *

- You will be given a pack of two tablets, called Ranitidine, to take home with you. These tablets are antacid tablets and you will need to take one at 10pm on the night before your caesarean and the other one at 6am on the morning of your caesarean section.

- You will also be given a small injection under the skin (subcutaneous) of a drug called Tinzaparin. This is an anticoagulant and is given to reduce the risk of blood clotting problems after the operation. *

- If you have not already signed your consent form you may be asked to complete this at this appointment.

- Please ensure that you have nothing to eat or drink from midnight on the night before your operation.

*PLEASE NOTE: If your caesarean section is booked for a Monday and your pre-op assessment is on the previous Friday, then you will be asked to attend the maternity unit on the Sunday to have your blood test and injection.

On completion of your appointment/assessment if there is no obstetric or medical reason, you will be able to go home and return to the Maternity Unit between 7:30 and 8:00 the following morning for your caesarean section.
For further information on the references and sources used for this leaflet, please contact 01625 661184.

Comments, compliments or complaints
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