

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

SOP Title	Referral from Fertility to EPAS		
SOP Number	044		
Care Group	Women and Children's		
Version Number	2		
Effective Date	15 th July 2024	Review Date	July 2027
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Approved by	Gynaecology and Fertility Clinical Governance		
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Document Control				
Version	Date	Author	Status	Comments
1	July 2019	Alex Keene, Specialist Nurse EPAS	Live	New guidance
2	15 th July 2024	Reviewed by Kerry Redge, Lead EPAS Clinical Nurse Specialist	Live	Ratified at Gynae and Fertility Clinical Governance

SOP Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a systematic and consistent approach to referring patients from the Fertility Unit to EPAS. To provide guidance on referring patients.
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure correct referral between Fertility department and EPAS service.
Performance Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit

Number	Brief	Responsibility
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women who have had Fertility treatment in the Fertility Unit who have a positive pregnancy test with pain/bleeding EPAS to be contacted on/or following scheduled date of pregnancy test as per fertility guidance. 	Fertility
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment to be arranged by EPAS team. Date and time given to Fertility Nurse. 	Fertility EPAS
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient to be given EPAS contact number by Fertility Team. 	Fertility
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients attending Fertility department for viability scan who have an empty uterus to be referred to EPAS for serial BHCG (as per EPAS Guidance). First BHCG to be taken by Fertility staff, then patient to attend EPAS for the second BHCG after 48 hours. Patient to be given appointment. If the scan shows an intrauterine fluid collection only, with features consistent with an intrauterine pregnancy then refer to EPAS who will arrange a follow up scan after one week, A review of images with an EPAS consultant will be arranged (images to be sent to EPAS from fertility), and the follow up scan may be delayed to 2 weeks. If the scan shows a possible ectopic pregnancy, or an intrauterine fluid collection NOT consistent with an intrauterine pregnancy (possible pseudosac), send first HCG and refer to EPAS who will arrange rescan and consultant review. Women who are symptomatic of pain and/or bleeding and who do not have a confirmed intrauterine pregnancy should be referred directly to the on-call gynaecology consultant on GATU. EPAS to be informed – Copy of scan from MIS (Maternity Information System). 	Fertility
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment to be made by Fertility through EPAS. 	Fertility
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of Hours 01952 565914. Message to be left in EPAS communication diary kept in Gynae Ward, EPAS will contact fertility or the patient the following morning to arrange an appropriate appointment. 	Gynae Ward
7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once patients are referred to EPAS, they will have open access to the EPAS service. Fertility to be contacted and informed of pregnancy outcome and viability scan to be cancelled. 	
8.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPAS contact numbers as per opening hours PRH- 01952 565944 / RSH - 01743261204 	EPAS