



## Enhanced Maternal Care on Labour Ward at University Hospitals Birmingham

### Welcome to Enhanced Maternal Care on Labour Ward at UHB

In this area you will be monitored more closely than in the other areas of maternity.

#### What is Enhanced Maternal Care?

We can deliver complex care, with specific equipment and monitoring. Because of this type of monitoring, we can respond to your needs. Specially trained midwives will look after you and will work closely with the doctors and anaesthetists, the team will review your plan of care on a daily basis. You may also be seen by nurses from the critical care outreach team. We will ensure your health needs are met, including managing your pain and supporting you with your baby.

You will have a midwife who will be responsible for no more than two ladies who require enhanced care.

Midwives in this area will have undertaken additional training in Enhanced Maternal Care.

#### Why do you need Enhanced Maternal Care?

Reasons for needing enhanced care could be a pregnancy related problem, or a medical problem which has occurred outside of pregnancy.

Examples of these may be related to:

- The Heart
- Bleeding
- Diabetes
- Blood pressure
- The kidneys
- Infection
- Bleeding
- Breathing or the lungs
- Neurological/the head

## **If you have had your baby**

- If your baby does not need to go to the neonatal or special care unit, they will stay with you. If your baby does need to be away from you, we will take you to visit them as soon as you are well enough.
- We can help you with feeding your baby that includes helping to breastfeed and expressing colostrum and milk.

## **How long will you need to stay in Enhanced Maternal Care?**

- The time in enhanced care may range from a few hours to a few days. Your birth partner can stay with you during this time. because you need time to rest and recover, we may limit the number of other visitors.

## **To assist with your recovery, we may ask you to:**

- Rest and sleep
- Start moving around as soon as you are able to
- Practice breathing exercises
- Perform leg exercises
- Wear anti thrombotic/compression stockings and you may also have injections to help prevent blood clots

## **What happens when you are transferred out of the Enhanced Maternal Care area?**

When you are well enough, the team caring for you will make the decision to transfer you to the postnatal ward. We will aim to do this as soon as possible.

When you go to the postnatal ward the midwife caring for you there will have several other ladies to care for, but if you have any questions or concerns you can ask for the Advanced Clinical Practice midwife, or an Enhanced Maternal Care midwife. Before you go home you will be reviewed by the postnatal ward doctor.

## **Department address and contact information:**

If you feel you would like to speak to somebody about your experience in the enhanced care area once you have left, please contact us.

Advanced Clinical Practitioner in Enhanced Maternal Care

Telephone number: 0121 424 2000 bleep 8386

## Diary:

Please use the space below to keep a diary or write down any questions you may have while you are with us.

## Accessibility

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