

## Gynaecology Service

### Introduction

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. This document provides you with information on how you are able to support yourself while waiting to attend the hospital. The guidance has been written by clinicians who are responsible for your care.

The Gynaecology department at UHCW is a consultant led, multidisciplinary service providing secondary care to the women of Coventry and Warwickshire and tertiary care to the West Midlands. The gynaecology oncology tertiary service accepts referrals from neighbouring hospitals in Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

We provide an entire range of surgical treatments, including open and laparoscopic procedures for gynaecological cancer patients. Outpatient, inpatient and day case care are provided in one facility integrated with the obstetric service, with which it shares the outpatient department and a dedicated ultrasound service. The services we offer are outlined below:

#### Ward 23

Ward 23 is a 12 bed ward that cares for ladies with gynaecological and pregnancy problems at and under 20 weeks.

#### Emergency Gynae Unit (EGU)

EGU is an emergency unit that cares for patients <20/40 gestation with pain, bleeding or other complications and patients with gynaecological emergencies such as sudden onset of bleeding, abdominal pain, cysts and other gynaecological emergencies. EGU utilises the same principles as Emergency Department (ED) where patients should be seen within four hours.

On arrival to the EGU the patient will be triaged, baseline observations will be taken and basic investigations made. The patient will be assessed by a doctor/ Advanced Clinical Practitioner (ACP) or Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) who will recommend any further investigations that may be required (e.g. scan/blood tests). Once this has been done the patient will either be discharged or admitted to a ward.

#### Gynae Clinics

Our clinic services are provided at both the UHCW and Rugby St Cross sites and also at City of Coventry Health Centre.

#### General Gynaecology Clinics

These clinics run daily and deal with the majority of gynaecological problems.

#### Two-week wait clinics

These clinics are provided by our specialist Gynae-Oncology consultants and specialist nursing team. These clinics are set up for ladies who have a suspicion of cancer determined by their symptoms or diagnostic results.

#### Colposcopy service

This service is provided by a multi-disciplinary team, which includes Clinical Nurse specialists and medical staff. The service provides diagnostic and treatment for ladies with cervical abnormalities. Treatments will be offered same day if clinically required.

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## **Hysteroscopy service**

This service provides diagnostic and management for unexplained vaginal bleeding. We offer a service which is 'see and treat', and are able to remove minor abnormalities within the uterine cavity.

## **Menstrual Disorder Clinics**

This is for the management of ladies with post-menopausal bleeding, heavy or irregular periods or suspected ovarian problems including ovarian cysts.

## **Urogynaecology**

Urogynaecology covers all aspects of female urinary incontinence and prolapse. We offer a comprehensive assessment investigation and treatment service by using drugs, physiotherapy, pessaries and surgical management.

## **City of Coventry clinics**

These are mainly nurse-led and provide general gynaecology and pessary clinics. We also provide a consultant led menopause clinic.

Please read the following information in conjunction with the staying healthy guidance and also the clinical guidelines for your specific procedure/condition.

## Guidance for Patients

Gynaecological conditions can arise in a multitude of ways and are diagnosed and treated depending on this presentation. All referrals received by the gynaecological service are triaged by a Consultant and signposted to the correct service and clinic as far as possible. All referrals are also vetted for urgency of appointment at the point of referral.

We appreciate that the wait for services is longer than we would like at this time, and this can lead to frustration and worry. We have put together a number of leaflets around common Gynaecological conditions which can help with self-care whilst awaiting their appointment as per the below. We would also suggest utilising your GP or local pharmacist for further advice on pain management and general Gynaecological self-care advice.

The leaflets can be accessed at the following address:

[Gynaecology - University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire \(uhcw.nhs.uk\)](https://uhcw.nhs.uk)

## What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If your health is deteriorating, you need to be seen by your GP for review and further assessment and management. In an emergency situation we would suggest you attend the Emergency Gynaecology unit for assessment.

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### **Contact Us**

Ward 23 emergency Gynae (Gynae A&E) – 02476 962000

Booking Centre – 0800 252060

For more specific enquiries a number will be included within your clinic appointment letter as appropriate.