

School Nursing Service

DRAFT

**Pregnancy Testing Protocol**

**Pregnancy Testing Protocol**

**When approached by a young woman requesting a pregnancy test:-**

1. Determine the reasons as to why the young woman is concerned that she may be pregnant; assess LMP, timing of intercourse and the use of contraception.
2. Establish whether the intercourse was consensual taking into consideration child protection/ sexual abuse issues. If there is reason to suspect child protection concerns, child protection procedures must be followed.

Consider any other issues, e.g. self respect, use of alcohol, use of drugs.

A pregnancy test can be false negative if taken too early. It should be performed either one week after her period was due in a regular cycle or 3 weeks from the last unprotected intercourse.

1. Ask what her reaction would be if the result is positive (who would she

tell- a parent/ carer or responsible adult? )

1. Perform test
2. Give result
3. If negative- reassure
   * Consider repeat in one week if there is any possibility that the test might be taken too early to show up positive, and she has not had a normal period in the interim.
   * Discuss the situation that led to concern about pregnancy and how this can be avoided in the future.
   * Discuss relationships and future contraceptive needs/STI awareness.
   * Explain availability of contraception at GP surgery, pharmacy and sexual health drop in clinics (assure of confidentiality)
   * Suggest discussing contraception with parents/carers
4. If positive, ascertain how she feels

* Offer further support and give appropriate advice on options
* If she is considering TOP give self-referral number for women’s health service (01563 827025) but consider phoning on behalf of the young person if appropriate
* If under 16 years it may be appropriate to delay this until a further consultation has been carried out
* Discuss who to tell and encourage discussion with parents/ carers. Offer support with this if required.
* **Follow up until either TOP or miscarriage has been confirmed or midwifery booking taken place (?safeguarding team number?)**

**Confidentiality must be respected. In the event of any concerns (e.g. or child protection issue) the School Nurse should discuss the situation with her line manager/ Child protection advisor/ schools identified person for child protection)**

If further advice is needed contact the sexual health department on 01294 323228 or email the clinical mail box on:

**Clinical\_SexualHealth\_ACH@aapct.scot.nhs.uk**