

Following your appointment today, it has not been possible to confirm whether your pregnancy is going to continue or not. You have been told by your doctors that you have been diagnosed with a pregnancy of uncertain viability. This is a confusing term and we know it can be difficult to take in all the facts when you are worried or upset especially in a hospital environment. We hope that this information leaflet may help.

There are three main reasons for you not being told exactly what is happening:

- It is simply too early. We expect to see a baby with a heartbeat at 6 weeks or pregnancy if it measures 6mm, but if you have an irregular cycle or only done a recent pregnancy test then it is difficult to pin point exactly when you conceived and you may be less pregnant than you think you are.
- The second reason is that the pregnancy is not growing as it should and you may be about to miscarry.
- In very rare circumstances an ectopic pregnancy can mimic a very early pregnancy and will need to be excluded.

### Follow-up

To help us find out what is happening we will see you in 7-14 days time for a rescan. If the pregnancy is ongoing and a baby with a heartbeat is seen then we will reassure you and re-date the pregnancy if necessary.

If the scan findings are the same then unfortunately we will diagnose a miscarriage and offer you further treatment and counselling if required.

### Further advice

Bleeding can be very common in early pregnancy and is not always a bad sign. Often it is due to an implantation bleed. As long as it isn't too heavy and you are coping with your symptoms then we would advise you to stay at home, however, a small proportion of women may miscarry between scans and if you are concerned about your symptoms then please do not hesitate to contact us on the following numbers.

Both the early pregnancy unit and the staff on orchard gynaecology ward are ready to support you during this difficult time, please do not hesitate to phone us for advice and support.

Early Pregnancy Unit/Gynaecology Outpatients	9-5pm	01234 792007
Orchard Gynaecology ward	24hours	01234 792219