

Early Pregnancy Assessment Service (EPAS)

Gosford Hospital EPAS ☎ 4320 3264

Early Pregnancy Assessment Service (EPAS)

This is a prearranged appointment only service

EPAS operates by appointment only Monday-Friday (closed Public Holidays)

EPAS is a low risk outpatient facility for women experiencing threatened miscarriage, known pregnancy loss, ectopic pregnancy or with abnormal results <20/40.

The care provided in EPAS is designed to meet the clinical, emotional and social needs of the individual woman. Care is provided with honesty, respect, dignity and sensitivity.

A midwife will initially phone you to arrange ongoing care and investigations and book an appointment if appropriate.

A doctor will be consulted when the results are available -if required.

Social Worker consultation is available and can be requested on day of appointment or as a follow up.

Interpreter Services can readily be arranged or support of telephone service.

If you are bleeding heavily and if your pain is not manageable at home with simple analgesia and heat packs present to the Emergency Department.

Referrals to EPAS

Referrals are accepted from CCLHD Emergency Departments (ED) or your local GP. Self-referral is also accepted. If you presented to ED or your GP, the staff will have sent your details to EPAS electronically.

The EPAS midwife will phone you to arrange an appropriate appointment date and time.

If possible, please **do not** bring children to EPAS. We aim for you to be seen within an hour however this may not always be possible.

A stay up to 3 hours in the EPAS, may be required to allow for blood tests and assessments to be attended in a timely manner.

Investigations

Blood collection can be arranged by ED, your GP or EPAS staff. Request forms for blood collection will be provided by the EPAS midwife or doctor as needed.

Ultrasound is important when determining the cause of bleeding and pain in early pregnancy.

You will be provided with an ultrasound form – for either the hospital or an external provider.

It is usual for a trans-vaginal ultrasound to be performed as it is the most accurate way to assess early pregnancy. This procedure may be uncomfortable but not painful. This will not harm the pregnancy. A chaperone will be present during the ultrasound.

Follow up

You may choose to have a follow-up visit with your local GP or EPAS.

If you choose follow-up with EPAS:

When the results from all the investigations are available the EPAS midwife and/or doctor will explain them to you, and discuss the options for further management.

The midwife or doctor will arrange further investigations or appointments with EPAS if required.

A letter will be provided to your local GP regarding your EPAS presentation, investigation and management and outcome of care.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions or request further explanation. EPAS staff are aware of your anxiety and concern.

If you experience an increase in vaginal bleeding and/or abdominal pain, or feel unwell, please seek the advice of your local doctor or present to the Emergency Department immediately.

EPAS Hours

By appointment arranged by EPAS midwife only

**Closed on public holidays
and weekends**

You can call EPAS and leave your name and best contact telephone number/s.

A midwife will call you within 2 working days. The phone call will come up as a 'private number'. The midwives will not leave messages on unidentified voicemails to respect your confidentiality.

**EPAS is located at
Gosford Hospital in the Women's
Outpatients Department J4**

If you have an appointment:

Please see the admin staff at the front desk and take a seat in the waiting room. You will be seen as soon as possible.

Early Pregnancy Assessment Service

Appointment only service

EPAS (voicemail):

☎ 02 4320 3264

Emergency Department

Gosford: ☎ 4320 2111

Wyong: ☎ 4394 8000

Local Doctor

Central Coast Local Health District Kids and Families Division

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