



Do you know about pre-eclampsia?

What is pre-eclampsia?

- Pre-eclampsia ('toxaemia') is an illness that happens in pregnancy
- It is usually mild, but sometimes it can be serious
- It can affect you and your baby

Who gets it?

Of every 100 pregnant women, 3 or 4 will get pre-eclampsia. You are more likely to get it if:

- This is your very first baby, or your first baby with a new partner
- You already have high blood pressure
- You had it early in your last pregnancy
- You are expecting twins, triplets, or more
- You have kidney disease or diabetes

How can it affect me and my baby?

- Pre-eclampsia can make your blood pressure go up and give you protein in your urine
- It can also lead to other circulation problems
- Your baby may grow more slowly and can develop other problems

What happens if I get pre-eclampsia?

- Identifying pre-eclampsia early makes it easier to keep you and your baby well
- Your blood pressure can be lowered with treatment
- You may be asked to stay in hospital
- Pre-eclampsia usually gets better quickly after your baby is born

What is the Magpie Trial?

- The Magpie Trial is a research study
- It is trying to find out if a simple drug called magnesium sulphate helps women with pre-eclampsia and their babies
- Only women already in hospital with pre-eclampsia will be invited to participate

We would like to let you know about the study. Please take a leaflet and if you want to know more, ask your midwife or obstetrician.

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