

Ask your midwife to write the name of the local contact person for the Magpie Trial here

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If you would like any further information about the trial please contact

Magpie Trial Co-ordinating Centre
Institute of Health Sciences
Old Road
Headington
Oxford
OX3 7LF

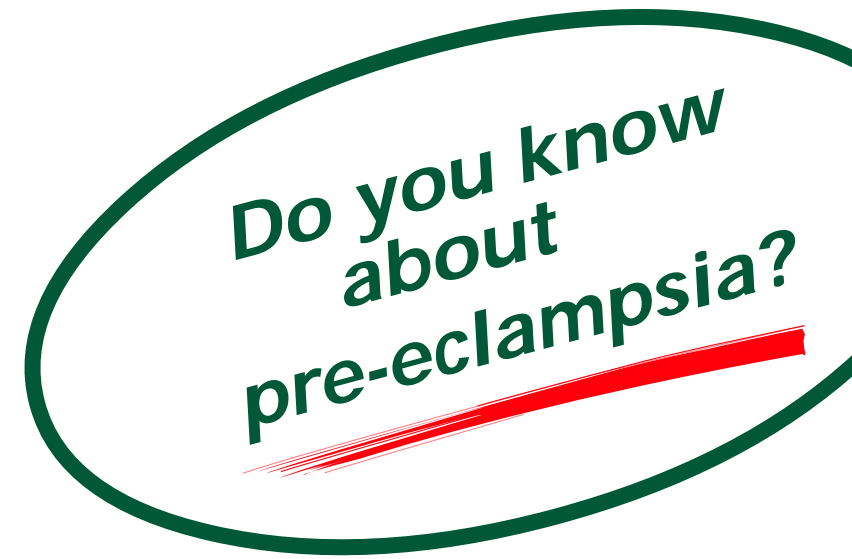
**For further information about pre-eclampsia,
contact the national charity
Action on Pre-eclampsia**

For written information, write with sae to:
APEC
31-33 College Road
Harrow, Middlesex
HA1 1EJ

For telephone support call the charity's Helpline
0181 427 4217
(Open weekdays, 10am – 1pm)

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The Magpie Trial: magnesium sulphate for treatment of pre-eclampsia, a study to evaluate the effects on women and their babies

What is pre-eclampsia?

- Pre-eclampsia is an illness that happens in pregnancy
- It is usually mild
- Sometimes it can be serious
- It can affect you and your baby
- It used to be called toxæmia

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 are expecting twins, triplets, or more
- You had it early in your last pregnancy
- Any close relatives have had pre-eclampsia
- You have kidney disease or diabetes

How can it affect me and my baby?

- Pre-eclampsia can make your blood pressure higher than usual and give you protein in your urine
- It may also lead to other circulation problems
- Pre-eclampsia can stop your baby getting enough food or oxygen
- Your baby may grow more slowly and can develop other problems

How will I know if I have pre-eclampsia?

Pre-eclampsia usually starts in the second half of pregnancy. Signs that you may have it:

- Bad headaches that won't go away
- Bad pain just below your ribs, especially on the right side
- Blurred vision, flashing lights or spots in front of your eyes

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, so that a close watch can be kept on the health of you and your baby
- Your baby may be delivered early
- 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 will help women with pre-eclampsia, and their babies
- The Magpie Trial involves hospitals throughout the UK and in many countries overseas

Am I likely to be involved in

- Your hospital is involved in the study
- Only women who are in hospital with pre-eclampsia will be invited to participate
- An information leaflet about the study is available in your hospital

We would like to let you know about the study. If you want to know more, ask your midwife or obstetrician, or contact us at the address overleaf.

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