

FOI0161/2023

Request:

Freedom of Information Request: Pregnancy and Miscarriage

1. How many early pregnancy units do you have within your health trust? Please can you provide the opening times of those early pregnancy units?
2. Do you have any dedicated recurrent pregnancy-loss clinics or recurrent miscarriage clinics within your health trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?
3. Do you have any dedicated pregnancy-loss clinics or miscarriage clinics (i.e. for non recurring losses) within your health trust? If so, please can you give the number of clinics you have?
4. How many recurrent miscarriages would an individual need to experience before being entitled to an investigation into the causes?
5. What mental health support do you offer for people affected by miscarriage?

Response:

1. There are no early pregnancy units in the trust. MMHS (Maternal Mental Health Service) works closely with the bereavement midwife who works within EPAU (Early pregnancy assessment and acute gynaecology) in BWH (Birmingham Women's and Childrens Hospital) who makes referrals to our services for women who experienced loss and has significant associated mental health difficulties.
2. We have no clinics in our Trust. Again, we work closely with a bereavement midwife who works for Tommys in BWH. She is able to make referrals to our service if it is agreed that our service is most appropriate for the woman.
3. We do not have pregnancy loss clinics.
4. We do not have clinics so do not have criteria for clinics.
5. MMHS is a specialised service within perinatal services who support women who have experienced perinatal loss. We offer psychological and peer support and specialist midwifery to women who experienced miscarriage and have significant mental health difficulties associated with this. We support women following the loss and through subsequent pregnancy following loss, if the mental health falls within the moderate/ severe threshold. We accept referrals from all healthcare professionals, most usually bereavement midwives, perinatal mental health teams and GP's. We work alongside 3rd sector organisations who support women who have experienced miscarriage including Lily Mae Foundation and Edwards Trust.