

## Location

The Early Pregnancy Assessment Service (EPAS) is located in the CLINICAL SERVICES BUILDING on LEVEL 3.

Royal North Shore Hospital

Part of the Woman's Health Ambulatory Care division (WHAC)

Parking is available in the multi-storey car park located near the North Shore Private hospital off Reserve road

## Important information

- Be prepared to stay up to 3 hours.
- If possible, do not bring children.
- Bring a partner, friend or relative if possible.
- If your condition or symptoms worsen, please go to the Emergency Department.
- You are not required to fast prior to your appointment; an early morning breakfast is advised. Although, should you require surgery a fast time of 6 hours prior to surgery is required.
- Should you require surgery please be advised that this may not take place on the same day as your EPAS appointment.

## EPAS HOURS

8:00am to 14:00pm

Monday – Friday

**(Excluding Public Holidays)**

Phone: (02) 9463 2350

Fax: (02) 9463 1005

To make an appointment please call and leave your name and contact telephone number.

Your call will be returned on the next working day and an appointment scheduled.

**If your condition changes before you attend EPAS, such as increased pain and /or bleeding please attend the Emergency Department.**

**Emergency Department**

(02) 9463 2222

**Healthdirect Australia**

1800 022 222

For further information visit our web site:

<http://www.nslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/>

(In the search engine type: EPAS)



Health  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District

# Early Pregnancy Assessment Service

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Royal North Shore  
Hospital

Women's Health Ambulatory Care  
Division

## Early Pregnancy Assessment Service (EPAS)

EPAS is a low risk outpatient facility for women experiencing vaginal bleeding and/or lower abdominal discomfort prior to 20 weeks gestation. We also manage women who require monitoring following treatment of ectopic pregnancy or molar pregnancy.

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

**A nurse/midwife** will arrange your appointment and investigations.

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

**Social Worker** consultation is available. This may need to be arranged as a follow up appointment.

**Interpreter Services** can readily be arranged, either direct or telephone service.

### Referrals to EPAS

Emergency Departments and your local GP may refer you to EPAS.

It is important that you bring all results for any investigations your doctor has previously arranged.

When you come for your appointment please bring your

- Medicare card
- Any blood or ultrasound results relevant to the pregnancy
- Referral letter

Be advised that due to the nature of this service your appointment may not always run on time and please be prepared to stay up to three hours.

### Investigations

**Blood collection** is an important investigation for certain management. Request forms for blood collection will be provided by the EPAS staff as required.

**Ultrasound** is an integral diagnostic tool when determining the cause of bleeding and pain in early pregnancy. **A full bladder is not required prior to an ultrasound at this service!**

It is not unusual for a trans-vaginal ultrasound to be performed. This is the most accurate way to assess early pregnancy. This procedure may be uncomfortable but not painful. This will not harm the pregnancy.

### Results

When the results from all the investigations are available the nurse and/or doctor will explain them to you. They will discuss the options for further management as required.

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

### Follow up

The nurse will arrange further investigations or appointments with EPAS as required.

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

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

All pathology results collected in EPAS are available through Pathology North. Your local GP can request these by phoning (02) 9926 6066.

**This Brochure was updated, August 2015**