

Patient information from BMJ

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Pre-eclampsia: questions to ask your doctor

Finding out that you have pre-eclampsia can be frightening. You will probably have lots of questions.

Here are some questions that you may want to ask your doctor if **you just found out that you have pre-eclampsia**.

- What is the best treatment for me?
- How does it work?
- Does it have side effects?
- Will I need to stay in hospital?
- How do you know if my baby is OK?
- Will my baby need to be born early?
- If my baby has to be born early, will he or she be all right?
- How will my baby be born? Will labour be induced?
- How will you know if the pre-eclampsia is getting worse?
- Is there anything I can do to help myself?

Here are some questions that you may want to ask your doctor **before your next pregnancy, if you have had pre-eclampsia before**.

- What are my chances of getting pre-eclampsia again?
- Is there anything I can do to stop it coming on?
- Are there any tests I can have to detect medical problems that will make me more likely to get pre-eclampsia again?
- What sort of care will I need in my next pregnancy?
- How will you know if I am getting pre-eclampsia again?
- I had to have an operation to deliver my last baby. Will I need to have one again? (This operation is called a caesarean section.)

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