#### Pregnant... What Next?

When you first find out you are pregnant you should contact a Midwife through your local hospital's Maternity Team for your first appointment.

An anonymous Text Service (0776 993 2189) is offered for anyone who has any pregnancy issues, even before meeting their Midwife. If required, a discreet meeting can be arranged outwith hospital premises before the first appointment.

If you are unsure about continuing your pregnancy, information and support is also offered from the Western Isles Pregnancy Crisis Support Service, tel. 07901 966101, or the Social Gynaecology Service, Inverness, tel. 01463 704431.

#### Your confidentiality is assured at all times.

#### NHSWI Contacts

#### Lewis (01851)

703145
810689
703588
860222
672283
880272
850282
643333
704704
701545
502421
520278
500333
602215
603603
602266
603156

#### South Uist (01878) South Uist Medical Practice Barra (01871) **Barra Medical Practice** St. Brendan's Hospital

### **Useful Weblinks**

NHS Western Isles www.wihb.scot.nhs.uk NHS Inform www.nhsinform.scot Sexual Health Scot. www.sexualhealthscotland.co.uk Cool2Talk www.cool2talk.org Family Planning Assoc. www.fpa.org.uk www.brook.org.uk Brook Avert www.avert.org **Terrence Higgins Trust** www.tht.org.uk National AIDS Trust www.nat.org.uk

## We are listening - how did we do?

We welcome your feedback, as it helps us evaluate the services we provide. If you would like to tell us about your experience:

- speak to a member of staff
- visit our website www.wihb.scot.nhs.uk/feedback or share your story at - www.careopinion.org.uk or 0800 122 31 35
- Tel. 01851 704704 (ext 2408) on a Tuesday and Friday afternoon between 1pm and 4pm.

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#### Disclaimer

The content of this leaflet is intended to augment, not replace, information provided by your clinician. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Reading this information does not create or replace a doctor-patient relationship or consultation. If required, please contact your doctor or other health care provider to assist you interpret any of this information, or in applying the information to your individual needs.

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810282

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Bòrd SSN nan Eilean Siar NHS Western Isles

# Sexual Health, Family Planning, and Contraceptive Services



Information on accessing sexual health, family planning and contraceptive services in the Western Isles

## Introduction

NHS Western Isles offers family planning services, information, advice and contraceptive supplies, free of charge throughout the Western Isles.

There are many different contraceptive methods available, and it is worth taking the time to find out more about each one so that you can choose the best method to suit you.

#### It is important to get contraception sorted out before you start having sex.

# Condoms and Lubricant

Free condoms and lubricant gel are provided by NHS Western Isles and are available from a number of locations. These include:

- GP Surgeries throughout the Western Isles
- Health Information & Resources Service (HIRS)
- Pointers Youth Cafe
- Health Promotion (Stornoway and Benbecula)

No appointment is necessary and items can be collected as and when required.

Condoms and lubricant gel can also be posted out discreetly from the Health Information & Resources Service (HIRS) on request. Simply telephone (01851) 701545 or visit 'HIRS Western Isles' on Facebook.

# Family Planning Services

Family planning services offer free contraception and family planning advice.

Family planning and sexual health appointments can be booked at any GP Practice, even if it is not at your own regular GP Practice. Simply request a sexual health appointment when booking.

#### Lewis & Harris

Free contraceptives are available from GP Surgeries (even if it is not your own GP), Hospitals, HIRS, and Health Promotion Departments.

A Family Planning Clinic is available on an appointment basis and held every Monday from 2pm-4.15pm at the Western Isles Hospital in Stornoway. To book your appointment tel. 763300.

#### **Uists & Barra**

In the Uists and Barra, family planning services are provided by GP Practices.

Family planning and sexual health appointments can be booked at any GP Practice, even if it is not at your own regular GP Practice.

# **Emergency Contraception**

Emergency contraception is used when contraception has failed or in the event of unprotected sex, to prevent pregnancy.

Emergency contraception can be taken within 72 hours of having unprotected sex, **but it is more effective the sooner it is taken.** 

Emergency contraception can be obtained free of charge from local Emergency Departments, all pharmacists, or dispensing GP Practices.

If you require emergency contraception from a GP Practice, please inform the receptionist you require an Emergency Appointment when booking.

# **Pregnancy Testing Kits**

Pregnancy Test Kits are available free of charge for confidential collection from the Health Information & Resources Service.

Tests can also be posted out discreetly from the Health Information & Resources Service on request by telephoning (01851) 701545, or Health Promotion (Uists) (01870) 603156.

# Sexually Transmitted Infections

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are bacterial or viral infections which are spread through unprotected sexual contact.

STIs are common and can go unnoticed after a person is infected, as often they show no symptoms. If you are concerned and have had unprotected sex, you should see your GP for an STI test.

STIs are tested through urine, blood or swab. STIs are often easy to get rid of, but if left untreated may cause serious damage to longterm health and fertility. If there is a chance you may have an STI, it's always better to be tested.