

SFHDiabPD12

Inform a woman of a diagnosis of gestational diabetes



Overview

This standard covers informing a woman, and any companions she wishes to include in the conversation, such as a partner or her family, that tests have shown she has gestational diabetes, and providing early information and support.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 arrange to discuss the results of the tests face to face with the woman and any companion she wishes to bring to the meeting
- P2 explain the diagnosis accurately, based on the information available to you, including any areas of uncertainty which may require further tests
- P3 explain the main risks of diabetes in pregnancy, and the main principles of how the risks can be managed
- P4 ask the woman for her immediate reactions to what you have said and give her and her companion time to ask questions and to discuss their concerns
- P5 confirm the woman's understanding of the information you have given her, and correct any misunderstandings in a manner which shows sensitivity to her feelings
- P6 discuss the immediate priorities for managing the woman's condition, and the nature of the actions that need to be undertaken
- P7 acknowledge that the woman and her companion may wish to revisit and discuss some issues at greater length at a later date, and provide a contact number for any questions they may wish to ask
- P8 agree the next steps that the woman and the care team will take
- P9 provide information in suitable forms about diabetes and pregnancy for the woman and her companion
- P10 identify the named contact and tell other members of the wider care team who are likely to be working with the woman in the immediate future about the information you have given to her, to ensure consistency
- P11 make an accurate record of the information you have given to the woman, which can be followed by the woman and by other members of the care team

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 national guidelines on diabetes management, education and service delivery in relation to diabetes and pregnancy
- K2 theories of the causes of different types of diabetes, including gestational diabetes
- K3 the signs and symptoms of different types of diabetes, including WHO criteria for diagnosis
- K4 normal and abnormal blood glucose and HbA1c values
- K5 how to monitor glucose levels, HbA1c and blood pressure
- K6 the importance and effects of patient education and self management
- K7 the psychological impact of diabetes, at diagnosis and in the long term
- K8 how to gather information from patients about their health
- K9 how to work in partnership with patients and carers
- K10 the social, cultural and economic background of the patient/carers group
- K11 the impact of nutrition, particularly carbohydrates, on diabetes
- K12 the impact of physical activity on diabetes
- K13 the effects of smoking, alcohol and illicit drugs
- K14 the effects of, and how to manage, intercurrent illness
- K15 the medications used to manage diabetes
- K16 the risks of a mother's diabetes to the mother and to the child
- K17 the medications used to manage diabetes during pregnancy and the medications that are contra-indicated
- K18 the priorities for managing diabetes during each trimester of pregnancy, during labour, and following delivery
- K19 relevant professional guidelines, standards and codes of professional conduct
- K20 the law and good practice guidelines on consent
- K21 your role in the healthcare team and the role of others
- K22 legal frameworks concerning prescribing
- K23 local guidelines on diabetes healthcare
- K24 the arrangements for supporting women with diabetes who are pregnant or who are planning pregnancy
- K25 local referral pathways
- K26 local systems for recording patient information
- K27 audit and quality assurance systems
- K28 sources of practitioner and patient information on diabetes
- K29 contact details of local and national support groups
- K30 how individuals can access local facilities for exercise and physical activity, education and community activities

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: Core 1 Communication

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