

## Further Information

For further information please contact your Midwife or local Maternity Team:

Lewis and Harris: 01851 704704  
Uists: 01870 603633  
Barra: 07580 384601  
Text Service: 0776 9932 189

*Note. In the event that the Barra Midwife is unavailable, those living in Barra are asked to contact Barra Medical Practice: (01871) 810282, Maternity Dept. in Stornoway: (01851) 708301, or NHS24: freephone 111.*

## 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](http://www.wihb.scot.nhs.uk/feedback) or share your story at - [www.careopinion.org.uk](http://www.careopinion.org.uk) or tel. 0800 122 31 35
- tel. 01851 708069 Monday-Friday between 9am-5.30pm.

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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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NHS Western Isles

## What does an inconclusive scan mean?



Following your appointment today, it has not been possible to confirm whether your pregnancy can continue or not.

We know that it can be difficult to take in all the facts when you are worried or upset, especially in a hospital environment.

It is worth remembering that counselling is available for you if you wish or need to talk at any time in the future. If you need any further information or advice please do not hesitate to ask the staff.

## What could be the reason for an inconclusive scan?

There are three main reasons why we are unable to tell you exactly what is happening. This could be that either:

- it is simply too early to see the pregnancy
- the pregnancy is not growing as it should, and that is possibly why you started bleeding
- there is a possibility of an ectopic pregnancy (a pregnancy outside the womb). Although this is rare, at this stage it is too early to diagnose.

## What happens next?

You will receive a blood test to help us find out what is happening.

We need to check the pregnancy hormone level in your blood. Depending on the hormone level you may be asked to repeat this scan in a few days.

The pregnancy hormone that is measured is called hCG (human Chorionic Gonadotrophin).

hCG is a hormone produced by the placental tissue and its level roughly doubles every 2 days in a normally growing early pregnancy.

## Further advice

Bleeding can be very common, and as long as it is not too heavy (e.g. heavier than a period) you can stay at home.

If you develop any sharp pains or are aware of an increasing, possibly 'crampy' discomfort, you may take mild analgesia (paracetamol tablets).

However, if you feel your pain is too bad and you are at all worried, please do not hesitate to phone your local Maternity team - numbers are given on the back of this leaflet.

Maternity staff are ready to support you during this difficult time, so please do not hesitate to phone for advice and support.