



FACT SHEET- Gynaecology

Conditions that affect the female reproductive system

<p>What happens now?</p>	<p>After visiting a GP to discuss the issue, gynaecological referrals are sent to be assessed by a hospital consultant. Most of these referrals are handled by Croydon Hospital NHS Trust. If the issues relates to fertility, incontinence, suspected cancer or if the patient is under-18, the referral will be dealt with differently.</p> <p>Treatment is then available either in hospital or in the community – depending on the gynaecological conditions. Community service provides care to patients – generally older – to help them avoid going into hospital unnecessarily, and support them to be as independent as possible.</p>
<p>Why is change needed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is a rising number of women being referred to hospital who are seen by a consultant without treatment and then discharged back to their GP ▪ High number of some outpatient procedures in hospital compared with other boroughs ▪ The community service is under-used but has shorter wait times and is more cost effective ▪ High number of face-to-face follow ups compared with other conditions
<p>What does the future look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clearer definition of which procedures which require a hospital referral and ways to refer to them ▪ New referral form which supports GPs with more options to manage the patient before making a referral ▪ Greater emphasis on GP education ▪ Easier access to advice and guidance for GPs from hospital consultants
<p>What does this mean for patients?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shorter waiting times ▪ Patients are seen by the right professional first time ▪ Fewer trips for face-to-face follow-up appointments
<p>What does this mean for GPs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easier access to telephone consultant advice and guidance ▪ More education events ▪ Improved referral process
<p>What improvements do we expect to see?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fewer people being unnecessarily seen in hospital ▪ Fewer outpatient procedures done in hospital – as more simple procedures will take place within local intermediate service
<p>When will it happen?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procurement - March to October 2018 ▪ Set up of new model from October 2018
<p>Meet the team</p>	<p>Clinical lead Dr Yinka Ajayi-Obe</p> <p>Senior Commissioning Lead Sau Fun Wong</p>