

# Information Leaflet



**Liverpool Women's**  
NHS Foundation Trust

## **Patients presenting to the Gynaecology Emergency Department (GED) with vulval swelling or lesions**

We have given you this leaflet because you have presented to the Gynaecology Emergency Department with swelling or lesions around your vulva.

After assessment by our emergency team, we have asked you to self-refer to your local services in the community, such as your GP or sexual health service.

We work together with local GPs and sexual health services across Liverpool because they are much better equipped at managing conditions which don't require emergency care in hospital.

We will notify your GP that you have attended the department today and that you may attend their service for assessment.

### **Who is the Gynaecology Emergency Department for?**

The Gynaecology Emergency Department is for people who need emergency treatment for serious or life-threatening gynaecology or early pregnancy problems.

This includes situations like:

- Severe tummy pain requiring emergency surgery
- Heavy vaginal bleeding that requires a blood transfusion or emergency surgery
- Severe tummy or vaginal infections requiring antibiotics through a drip

There are often long waits to see a Doctor or specialist Nurse. This is because we must prioritise patients who require emergency care first.

## **Where can I get help with my vulval symptoms?**

### **General Practice**

Your GP will be able to help you with your symptoms and offer further tests if they are required. If your symptoms require a review by a specialist, your GP can refer you to a specialist community service or the hospital.

### **Sexual Health Services**

Painful genital lesions (ulcers) can be a sign of infection by the herpes simplex virus. This is the same virus that causes cold sores.

If you have been sexually active or previously diagnosed with genital herpes, your local sexual health service may be able to help you. They will be able to perform a wide range of tests and offer treatment if this is required.

Axess sexual health is available to patients living in Merseyside or Cheshire. You can make an appointment yourself or attend their walk-in service for a consultation.

To make an appointment at any Axess clinic, visit [www.axess.clinic](http://www.axess.clinic) or phone 0300 323 1300.

### **Axess Sexual Health at The Royal Liverpool Hospital**

Linda McCartney Centre  
Accessible via Mount Vernon Street (off Prescott Street)  
Liverpool, L7 8YE

### **Axess Sexual Health at The Beat**

6 David Lewis Street  
Liverpool, L1 4AP

### **Axess Sexual Health South Liverpool Treatment Centre (Garston)**

32 Church Road  
Garston, Liverpool, L19 2LW

There are also Axess Clinics at other locations around Merseyside and Cheshire:

- Huyton
- Kirkby
- Macclesfield
- Crewe
- Warrington
- Runcorn
- Widnes
- Wirral

## **Where can I get help with my vulval symptoms?**

### **NHS 111**

If you need same day urgent care or you aren't sure which service is the best option for you, contact NHS 111. They will be able to advise you the best service for the treatment you need.

The NHS 111 service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from mobile phones and landlines. In an emergency, you should ring 999.

## **I am waiting for a Gynaecology clinic, surgery or procedure appointment, where can I find more information?**

The Liverpool Women's Access Centre will be able to update you on your appointment if:

- Your GP has referred you to Gynaecology but you are still waiting to be seen
- You have been seen by our Gynaecology service and are still receiving treatment or waiting for an operation
- You have been discharged to Patient Initiated Follow Up (PIFU)

Please call the Gynaecology Access Centre on 0151 702 4328 (and select option 3), for more information.

Please note, if you have not been referred to Gynaecology or you have been discharged without Patient Initiated Follow Up (PIFU), you will need to see your GP.

## **When should I come back to the Gynaecology Emergency Department?**

If you develop any of the following symptoms, please attend the Gynae Emergency Department or your nearest A&E as soon as possible:

- Severe genital pain, not relieved by pain relief such as paracetamol or ibuprofen
- Difficulty passing urine (wee)
- Running a high temperature or feeling feverish
- You have a positive pregnancy test

If you develop any symptoms not listed above, you should see your GP or attend your nearest A&E if they are severe.

## **How to find us:**

### **Gynaecology Emergency Department (GED)**

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust  
Crown Street, Liverpool, L8 7SS  
Telephone: 0151 708 9988

**This leaflet can be formally translated on request via our Patient Experience Team, although response times to have information translated can vary. To request formal translation services or if you would like to make any suggestions or comments about the content of this leaflet, please contact the Patient Experience Team on 0151 702 4353 or by email at [pals@lwh.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@lwh.nhs.uk)**

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