

Postnatal anaesthetic information – epidurals and spinals

This leaflet offers advice for women who have received an epidural or spinal injection during labour.

It is unusual for anyone to have problems after having had an epidural or a spinal, but you should contact your midwife, delivery suite or your GP immediately if you develop any of the following symptoms in the next month:

- Numbness, weakness or any altered sensation in your legs.
- Any inability to pass urine or control your bowels.
- A new or different headache that is worse when sitting or standing up.
- Redness, discharge, oozing or pain from the epidural site on your back.
- New or worsening back pain.

If you experience any of these symptoms, tell your GP that you have recently had an epidural or spinal and show them this information sheet.

Your GP or midwife can contact the Obstetric Anaesthesia Service for advice on the following numbers:

24 hours per day: 0118 322 5111 bleep 142

Or contact the Delivery Suite on 0118 322 7303 and ask to speak to the duty anaesthetist.

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

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