

How will the results be used?

Your feedback will help us to learn more about our services. We want you to tell us what we are doing well – so we can do more of it, but it's also important that you tell us what you didn't like and where we can do better. We'll use your feedback to make changes that will help us to offer a continually improving standard of maternity care.

Will the results be published?

From January 2014, the NHS Friends and Family Test results for maternity services will be published on the NHS Choices website. This is part of the NHS's commitment to be open and transparent and give patients in-depth information about health services.

We've already started publishing results for A&E and Inpatient services, so you can visit NHS Choices to see how it works at www.nhs.uk

Hospitals are also encouraged to publish their results locally, so you can access up to date information about your local services.



The NHS Friends and Family Test

Maternity Services

A short guide for parents



If you'd like to learn more about the NHS Friends and Family Test

then please visit www.england.nhs.uk
or email england.friendsandfamilytest@nhs.net

What is the NHS Friends and Family Test?

The NHS Friends and Family Test is based on one straightforward question that we are asking people who are accessing a wide range of NHS services. It means you can give your feedback about the care you have received.

The NHS wants to make sure that you have the best possible experience of care and the NHS Friends and Family Test is a way of gathering your feedback, so we can understand what has worked well and, where necessary, make improvements.



How does it work?

As you progress through your pregnancy and access different maternity services, you will be given the opportunity to answer the NHS Friends and Family Test question.

You'll have the opportunity to give us your views on antenatal care, birthing care and postnatal care... so you might be asked the question up to 3 or 4 times, so we can make sure we can improve every stage of maternity care.

The question will be slightly different depending on the particular service you have just used, but will look like this:

How likely are you to recommend our 'maternity service' to friends and family if they needed similar care and treatment?

You'll be able to select from the following responses:

Extremely likely	Likely	Neither likely or unlikely	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely	Don't know
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We also encourage you to provide us with more information so we can understand why you chose your particular answer. This is optional, but it does mean we learn a little more about your experience, including what we did well and where we can look to make improvements.

Your NHS maternity provider will offer you the opportunity to answer the question at the appropriate time, using the collection method that they have chosen to use. When you answer the question you can include your name, but you don't have to.