How can I help reduce healthcare associated infections?
Infection control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. We ask that you, and anyone visiting you, use the hand sanitiser available at the main entrance of the hospital and at the entrance to every clinical area before coming in to and after leaving the clinical area or hospital. In some situations hands may need to be washed at the sink using soap and water rather than using the hand sanitiser. Staff will let you know if this is the case.

www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk
@buckshealthcare

If you require a translation of this leaflet please call 01296 316042

References:
Introduction

When you attend hospital we have to ask you lots of questions about your health, any medicines you might be taking and any allergies you have. This is so we can make sure that you will be safe while in hospital. If you are going to have an operation or for some kinds of x-rays and scans we will need to check if you are pregnant.

After becoming pregnant
Very soon after becoming pregnant (when the period may only be a week or two late) there are many changes happening within the body. How medications affect the body, and how the body deals with medications can be different during pregnancy. Some medications that may be used during anaesthetics or some kinds of scans may damage an unborn baby. There is also a chance of miscarriage (losing the baby) if a woman has an operation or investigation during early pregnancy.

Pregnancy test
To check about pregnancy we will need to ask if you have started your periods and if it is okay for us to test a sample of your urine. Your parent may be asked to provide consent for the test but if you are assessed as mature enough to make this choice yourself you may be asked to provide consent.

If you wish to discuss the test, away from your family please let us know and we will arrange this. While we encourage girls to share information with their parents, your confidentiality will always be respected and we will not share information you give us without your consent unless we believe this would compromise your safety.

For most young girls the test will be negative which shows that they are not pregnant and the procedure can go ahead as planned.

For a small number of young girls the test may be positive and we would then have to think very carefully about the best way to proceed and to make sure the right care was organised to help you.

You have the right to refuse the pregnancy test but we would want to discuss the reasons why, in order to help us to make the best decisions on how to proceed with your care and keep you safe.

We are aware of how stressful and embarrassing hospital can be and hope you appreciate the reasons why we request consent to carry out this test.

Please don’t hesitate to ask to speak to a staff member if you have any questions or concerns or would like more information.