

Anonymous (2) – 11 February 2021

I am a first time mum to be so can only give views of my experience over the last few months visiting the antenatal unit. Firstly it's sad times for everyone, however, not being able to have your partner to attend these appointments is devastating. If companions can accompany you to some other areas in the hospital. They should be allowed here. Secondly, it's disappointing how many different people you see in relation to your pregnancy. I have seen a number of sonographer and midwives.

You should be dedicated members of staff and stay with them throughout. Having to explain time and time again your circumstances, wishes, feelings, experience etc to each person would not be necessary if you saw the same person and built a rapport. I was very disappointed from the beginning to learn having the same person would not be the case. A number of times I have visited antenatal for appointments, there has been delays with no availability of rooms. Being a first time mum I expected each and every appointment to be thoroughly explained as to who the person was, what the appointment was about and what we would be doing in that particular appointment. I appreciate this is their everyday job but to a new mum you have no idea what's coming and why. More training / time needs to be given to staff to properly explain and see clients as some of my appointments have been rushed due to staff shortages etc.

You should be made to feel they have time for you. In relation to outside of the hospital, more businesses and public places should have baby changing facilities in both male and female toilets.