

## RAINE STUDY - INFORMATION SHEET

The aim of this study is to identify certain factors which may influence the growth of the baby during pregnancy, or which may result in premature birth, complications of delivery, or illness in childhood.

We are planning to collect information from more than 3500 women at King Edward Memorial Hospital who will have their babies over the next few years. We will ask you to fill in a questionnaire giving us some information about your family background, occupation and lifestyle. We would like you to give us as much information as you can about things you have been exposed to, both early in the pregnancy and later on. In order to find out just what factors are important, we need to have information on a very large sample of normal pregnancies. This information will be collected at your first visit and then again near the end of your pregnancy.

After your baby is born, a blood sample will be taken from the placenta. The placenta will also be examined and some tissue may be stored for later tests.

When your baby is two days old, he/she will be examined by a paediatrician. This examination will be entirely non-invasive and will take about 30 minutes. You will be given the results of the examination.

As we would like to keep a record of the baby's progress over the next few years, you will be contacted when your baby is 1 year old, and an examination by a paediatrician or child health nurse will be arranged.

All women in the study will have an ultrasound examination at 18 weeks, so we will know the exact age of your baby. In addition, each woman will be randomly allocated to one of two groups. If you are allocated to 'Ultrasound only', any further ultrasound examinations will be as requested by your doctor. If you are allocated to the 'Ultrasound and Doppler' group, you will have ultrasounds to measure and record the baby's growth, and the Doppler examinations which measure the blood flow through the placenta. These will be performed at 18, 24, 28, 34 and 38 weeks of pregnancy. We will attempt to make these appointments whenever you have an ordinary clinic appointment so there will be little inconvenience to you. If you are in the 'Ultrasound and Doppler' group, you will also have blood tests taken in the Ultrasound Department at 18 and 34 weeks gestation, and some of this blood may be stored for later tests. All these measurements will enable us to construct new growth curves for normal babies taking into account any factors which we find may influence this.

Dr Helen Stokes (Study Co-ordinator) will be happy to discuss any aspects of the study with you or your partner and she can be contacted through King Edward Hospital (Phone 340.1394 or 340.2222)

This study is being run jointly by King Edward Memorial Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital and the University of Western Australia.

We would like to thank you for taking part in our study, and wish you well with your pregnancy.