

## Why is the active management of nausea and vomiting of pregnancy (NVP)/ hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) important?

- NVP/ HG is associated with serious health consequences for both mother and baby
- Patients with NVP/HG often present to primary care as onset of symptoms occur prior to their pregnancy being booked by a midwife
- Patients are likely to have tried non-pharmacological options prior to presenting thus they may have severe disease at first presentation to primary care



Obstetricians & Gynaecologists



GPCPC

### Practice points for general practitioners:

- Validate patients' symptoms
- There are safety and efficacy data for first line antiemetic therapy including anti (H1) histamines, phenothiazines and doxylamine/pyridoxine and they should be prescribed when required for the management of NVP/HG
- In patients with severe disease multiple antiemetics prescribed together will be required
- Ketonuria is not an indicator of dehydration and should not be used to assess severity of NVP/HG
- Guidance for referral to secondary care is included in the algorithm below
- NVP/HG is likely to recur in subsequent pregnancies and pre-emptive use of medication can reduce severity of disease future pregnancies
- An assessment of mental as well as physical is important

**Recommended simplified management algorithm for management of NVP/HG in primary care (for detailed algorithm see appendix Vail):**

