

**This information is for you if you are pregnant
and have received an initial reactive result in HIV,
hepatitis B or syphilis**

What your blood test result has shown

Your initial blood test has shown a reactive (unclear) result. This result does not mean that you have an infection.

Why does a blood test give an unclear result?

All laboratory tests can produce unclear results. This is usually caused by a weak reaction to the blood test. The blood test can give an unclear result, without you having an infection, for many reasons. It may be:

- as a result of a mild illness such as a cold; or
- because the blood sample was too warm or too cold when being transported to the laboratory.

Often there is no known reason for the unclear result.

Further testing during your pregnancy

It is advised that you have a further blood test to get a clear result. It is important that this repeat blood sample is taken so that you have a definite result.

You will normally be asked to give the second blood sample at a later antenatal appointment. Your midwife may ask you some questions which will help you both decide together when would be the best time to take this second blood sample. Sometimes more than one repeat blood sample is needed to give you a definite result.

Your midwife will discuss with you how and when you can get the results of the repeat blood test (or tests) and will answer any further questions that you may have.



It is important to discuss any concerns that you may have about the infection with your midwife. Your midwife will be able to help you make sure that you get the best possible care for you and your baby.

Next steps

1. The result of one of your blood tests for infections in pregnancy has shown a reactive (unclear) result
2. It is recommended that you have a second blood sample taken so that you can receive a definite result
3. Your midwife will discuss with you the best time to have a second blood test
4. Your midwife will discuss with you how and when you will receive the results from your repeat blood test (or tests).