

## **Information for Parents and Carers**

### **6-WEEK CHECK**

- You are here today for the 6-week check, as part of this check, the doctor will examine your baby's hips. The doctor may use a checklist for this part of the consultation.
- This checklist, developed by researchers from Great Ormond Street Hospital, is currently being used in a number of GP surgeries as part of a research project. An NHS Research Ethics Committee has approved this research.
- It is believed that doctors can evaluate the hips of babies better with use of the checklist. The research project will study if this is true.
- The checklist is a summary of all things that any doctor should think of during the 6-week check. It reminds doctors about 9 routine things to look for when checking the hips.
- The checklist will not require your doctor to do anything that they would normally do during the 6-week check. It is a way of reminding the doctor of all important things to look out for in examining your baby's hips.
- The research team will follow your child's care through the NHS for 2 years. This is needed to find out if your child has always had normal hips, or if the child has ever been to hospital for a hip problem. They will do this by using your child's unique "NHS number".
- The researchers have obtained permission from the NHS Health Research Authority Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) to do this, unless you decide today to opt out. CAG protects and promotes the interests of patients, and facilitates appropriate use of confidential patient information for purposes such as this research.
- Also, as part of the research, the surgery staff may send you questionnaires in 2 weeks to ask you about today's 6-week check. It will be good if you can complete the questionnaires should you receive any. You can return them free of cost. Similarly, there are questionnaires designed for children who are 2 years old and above of which we are also looking at. We may get in contact with you, once your child is 2 years old, to complete this.
- You can opt out of this research project. Opting out means the doctor will continue the 6-week check without the use of the checklist and no data will be collected by the research team. You will also not be contacted for completion of questionnaires.
- If you wish to opt out, please say so when handing back this leaflet to your GP.

**Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet**