

# Short Cases Obstetrics

## Introduction

In the UK, routine antenatal care is usually provided by a community midwife. The role of the GP has changed in the past 20 years, with much less involvement in routine antenatal care. This can lead to a lack of familiarity with the assessment of pregnant women.

Despite this, there are a number of presentations during pregnancy that GPs are expected to manage. The topics of rash, nausea and headache were identified by members as areas of learning need. All may have a simple cause or need secondary care assessment and management of conditions which could potentially harm the pregnant woman or her unborn child. The challenge as always, is to identify those patients who require further assessment, a task made more difficult when we are not seeing pregnant women on a regular basis.

Discussing whether to prescribe antidepressants in pregnancy is a challenging consultation for GPs, with many uncertain about how to assess the risks and benefits of these medicines in the antenatal period.

The aim of this module is to describe assessment and primary care management of:

- nausea and vomiting in pregnancy
- depression in pregnancy
- rashes
- headache

*This module does not cover the management of hypothyroidism in pregnancy. This is covered in the Short Cases Endocrinology PBSGL module*