

## **BHCG BLOOD TESTS**

The most common blood test used to detect a pregnancy in the very early weeks, or to determine if a pregnancy is likely to continue or miscarry is a beta-HCG (human chorionic gonadotropin).

Most women will show a positive NHCG approximately 11-12 days after conception. The BHCG hormone starts to be released into the woman's blood stream soon after the baby implants into the lining of the uterus.

The BHCG level will initially start off very low but then rapidly increase (doubling every 2-3 days).

### **BHCG Monitoring**

If the scan is inconclusive, a blood test is needed to measure the pregnancy hormone level. This will give an indication of how the pregnancy is progressing. The results of this test are not always conclusive and may require further assessment, i.e. further blood tests or a scan.

At least 2 samples are normally required at 48 hour intervals. The results of these tests will be available the same day.

