

East Midlands flowchart for fetal ectopic beats

Where an irregular fetal heartbeat is detected, the woman should be referred to the local obstetric unit for ultrasound scan and seen within 3 / 5 working days

Ultrasound scan. Assess the heart. Assess the rate (M mode if possible) The heart appears normal but Heart is structurally normal, and the there are concerns that the The heart appears structurally irregular cardiac rhythm is caused by irregular rhythm is caused by abnormal or fetal hydrops intermittent ectopics anything other than intermittent ectopics Manage locally. Refer to fetal cardiology in Leicester Fortnightly auscultation by community midwife Refer to nearest Fetal Medicine Tel: 0116 258 4860 and see again if FHR greater than 180 bpm. E-mail the fetal cardiology referral form to: tertiary service Manage labour as stated in guidelines i.e. uho-tr.fcardiac@nhs.net intermittent auscultation is sufficient if no other Where available, as well as referral to Leicester, risk factors. If there are other reasons for provide prompt local Fetal Medicine scan to continuous monitoring in labour, and the CTG is review for any other anomalies or changes uninterpretable, recommend delivery by CS.

(see structural cardiac anomaly pathway)

counselling

which may impact on care, and perform initial