Posture in pregnancy
Why is posture important?

Postural changes that occur because of a growing bump may contribute to pelvic and/or back pain. While pregnant and after having a baby, it is important to try to maintain a good posture to reduce the risk of pain and discomfort.

**Standing posture**

**Tips:**

- Stand tall.
- Tuck your bottom under.
- Lift your bump towards you.
- Ensure your weight is equal between both feet.

**Sitting posture**

**Tips:**

- Sit back into the chair.
- Have a folded towel to support your lower back.
- Ensure both feet are on the floor.
Sleeping positions

- Support your back with pillows so you are half way between sitting and lying.
  - This may help with breathlessness.
  - This may be an alternative to lying on your back.
- Lying on your side, with pillows between your knees.
  - Keep your top knee in line with your hip.
- Lying on your side, bend your top leg forwards as far as comfortable.
  - Place pillows under your top leg and bump for support.

Getting up from lying

1 Roll onto your side.
2 Drop your legs off the side of the bed. Use your arms to push yourself up into sitting.
3 Sit upright with both feet on the floor before coming up into standing.
Please contact the physiotherapy department if you require any further information.

Royal Sussex County Hospital  Telephone: 01273 523050
Hove Polyclinic  Telephone: 0300 304 0118
Brighton General Hospital  Telephone: 01273 665111
Princess Royal Hospital  Telephone: 01444 448664

© Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

Disclaimer
The information in this leaflet is for guidance purposes only and is in no way intended to replace professional clinical advice by a qualified practitioner.

Reference number: 742.2
Publication Date: September 2019
Review Date: September 2021