



Press Release

UK'S LEADING FERTILITY EXPERT CALLS FOR FERTILITY CHECKS FOR WOMEN FROM THE AGE OF 25 AND FOR A NEW SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN SCHOOLS

MR MICHAEL DOOLEY, CONSULTANT GYNAECOLOGIST AT KING EDWARD VII'S HOSPITAL, ARGUES THAT ALL WOMEN SHOULD HAVE A FERTILITY CHECK WITH THEIR REGULAR SMEAR TEST, TO MAXIMISE THEIR CHANCES OF SUCCESSFULLY HAVING A CHILD

HIS CALL TO ACTION COMES AFTER NEW STUDY HAS REVEALED THAT WOMEN HOPING TO HAVE THREE CHILDREN NATURALLY SHOULD BEGIN TRYING AT THE AGE OF 23

MR DOOLEY SAYS, "THESE RESULTS ARE GOING TO SHOCK A GENERATION OF WOMEN WHO ARE PUTTING THEIR CAREERS FIRST AND FAMILY SECOND. I AM CALLING ON EDUCATORS AND PARENTS ACROSS THE UK TO NOT ONLY TEACH YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT CONTRACEPTION, BUT ALSO ABOUT THE REALITY OF THEIR FERTILITY."

One of the UK's leading fertility expert is calling for fertility checks for women from the age of 25 and for a new sex education programme in schools.

Mr Michael Dooley, Consultant Gynaecologist at King Edward VII's Hospital *Sister Agnes*, argues that all women in the UK should have a fertility check with their regular smear test, in order to maximise their chances of successfully having a child.

His call to action comes after a study released last week revealed that women hoping to have three children naturally should begin trying at the age of 23.

Mr Dooley says, **"These results are going to shock a generation of women who are putting their careers first and family second. I am calling on educators and parents across the UK to not only teach young people about contraception, but also about the reality of their fertility."**

The study comes from Erasmus University in Rotterdam, and compiles 300 years' of fertility data from over 58,000 women.

Mr Dooley says, **"We get our cars checked once a year, yet why don't we get our fertility regularly checked? For a couple trying for a family, a fertility check can be life changing."**

A fertility test can be as simple as answering a series of questions that can pinpoint areas in a couple's health or lifestyle that might affect their fertility.

Mr Dooley has developed the 'Fit For Fertility Checklist' which takes around ten minutes, and includes questions such as 'Do you have pain with intercourse?' or 'Do you have diabetes?' The answer to questions such as these could illuminate whether or not a patient might benefit from a blood test or semen test.



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Mr Dooley is also a strong advocate for developing a new sex education programme across schools in the UK, which will not only teach young people about safe sex and pregnancy prevention, but also about their fertility and the factors that can impact this.

Mr Dooley says, **“I frequently see patients who have no clue when it comes to their fertility and many couples try for years before seeking medical advice. It is my dream to start a conversation and change this culture. Education and frequent testing will change lives, helping many people to successfully start a family.”**

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King Edward VII's Hospital:

King Edward VII's Hospital is an independent, acute private Hospital located in Marylebone, central London. The Hospital delivers the highest standards of private medical care in London, supported by outstanding nurses, first class staff and hand-picked consultants, all of whom are recognised leaders in their fields. In our most recent Patient Satisfaction Survey, the Hospital received 97.7% for overall satisfaction. Full details of the survey can be found at www.kingedwardvii.co.uk/patient_survey.cfm

King Edward VII's Hospital is open to all.

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