

## Kerry's story

I was diagnosed with Wolff Parkinson White Syndrome in May 2010 during the 6th month of my first pregnancy.

During my life time I had had palpitations, chest tightness and aches, all these I thought were normal.

However, during my early pregnancy I felt awful, again I thought this was totally normal for pregnancy, tiredness, sickness, feeling faint and even unfortunately blacking out in the most inappropriate places on a regular basis. I left it until I was about 18 weeks and then one day while driving to work I had an unfortunate accident, thankfully not injuring anybody, myself or the car but I passed out while driving. This was a huge wakeup call and I then went to the doctors, was referred to my maternity Consultant and then to Cardiology and neurology... following tests for epilepsy I was cleared from Neurology but kept on for further tests for my heart, several ECG's and 24 hour tapes later I was fitted with a heart monitor for a week. This is when I was given my diagnosis of WPW.

I was started on medication but was hospitalised with several episodes of passing out and breathlessness, the medication was stopped as a precaution because of the pregnancy.

It was decided to deliver the baby by induction 3 weeks earlier than my due date, where I was strapped up to all the monitors available with an epidural so that my body wasn't too stressed. I delivered a very healthy baby boy after only 1 hour in labour and after 2 nights of being monitored with my WPW I was sent home with an outpatient's appointment for Cardiology.

I saw my consultant at the beginning of January 2011 and it was decided that it would be best to operate. On the 7th Feb 2011 I went in for day surgery and I am still awaiting my follow up appointment in May... So watch this space!!!!!!!!!!