A2 Healthcare Keywords

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| **Keyword** | **Definition** |
| **National Health Service (NHS)** | The organisation in the UK that provides free healthcare for all |
| **General Practictioner (GP)** | A qualified doctor who is the first point of contact with the NHS for most people. A GP provides a range of care in the community. |
| **Paramedic** | Someone who can provide medical care for people who are ill of who have had an accident in an emergency situation before they reach hospital. |
| **Midwife** | A healthcare professional who deals with pregnancy and postnatal care in the community |
| **APGAR score** | New born babies are tested for Activity, Pulse, Grimace, Appearance and Respiration |
| **Growth chart** | A chart comparing a child’s length or height and weight with other children of the same age. It also shows how quickly a child is growing. |
| **Cervix** | The opening of the uterus that is in the vagina. The cervix dilates (opens wider) during labour. |
| **Uterus (womb)** | Another name for the womb |
| **Fallopian tubes** | The tubes that carry an egg from the ovary to the uterus |
| **Amnion** | A membrane or sac that contains the foetus as it develops in the womb |
| **Placenta** | The spongy structure that connects the mother to the baby during pregnancy. Nutrients, gases and waste products are exchanged betweent he foetus and the mother through the placenta |
| **Amniotic fluid** | The fluid that fills the space in the uterus where the foetus develops. It keeps it protected and stops it from drying out. |
| **Blood pressure** | Pressure measured inside blood vessels. It is shown as two numbers. Systolic over diastolic pressure (e.g. 140 over 80) |
| **Pre-eclampsia** | A condition that is very serious in pregnancy. The mothers blood pressure can rise to dangerous levels and protein is found in the urine. |
| **Gestational diabetes** | The mother is unable to control her blood glucose level during pregnancy |
| **Counselling** | An opportunity to talk to a healthcare professional and get advice. |
| **Hormone treatment** | In IVF, hormone treatment can cause the ovaries to produce many eggs at once instead of just one a month. |
| **Fertilisation** | The point at which a sperm fuses with an egg |
| **Implantation** | A fertilised egg becomes embedded in the lining of the uterus |
| **Multiple birth** | The birth of more than 2 babies at once |
| **Ultrasound scanning** | The use of ultrasonic waves (very high frequency) to examine internal organs |