

## Information about Chagas for partners

Were you born in Latin America?

Chagas is a rare disease which you may not know you carry. People born in Latin America can catch Chagas if they are bitten by the kissing bug ("vinchuca"). Chagas can eventually affect your heart and your gut.

At King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, pregnant women and people will be offered screening for Chagas because they can pass Chagas to the baby during pregnancy (through the placenta). If we identify Chagas during pregnancy, it is easy and free to treat the mother and baby.

Fathers can't pass on the disease, but you may wish to be tested for your own health. Treatment is available if you are positive.

If you want more information or wish to be tested for Chagas, contact your GP.

Visit [www.kch.nhs.uk/chagas](http://www.kch.nhs.uk/chagas)  
for more information

