



# Lancashire Gynaecologist

*Eric Mutema*



A specialist service for women  
in the North West of England



## A specialist service for women in the North West

This feature considers the challenges facing women seeking help for gynaecological conditions in the North West of England, and shows that there are services closer to home that can offer relief from conditions.



## The bigger picture

Since the pandemic, NHS waiting lists for women's gynaecological services in England soared by 60%, and if that wasn't bad enough, the common gynaecological problems that women experience are likely to be less of a treatment priority if they are non-cancerous.

That means conditions such as endometriosis, prolapse, urinary incontinence, menopausal conditions and heavy bleeding will be dismissed due to the enormous pressure on waiting lists. However, if left untreated, conditions such as endometriosis and prolapse can become unbearable, have a severe impact on quality of life and affect fertility.

## North West – worst affected region for access to gynaecologists

The extent of regional health inequalities across the UK became clearer post-pandemic. For gynaecology, 8 out of the 10 worst affected Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were located in the north west of England, highlighting the enormous geographical variations in women's gynaecological healthcare.

When the Department of Health and Social Care surveyed women across the country in March 2021, the survey findings revealed that just 2 in 5 women felt that they could conveniently access healthcare services locally. This has resulted in a new governmental strategy for women's health which has promised to close the gender healthcare gap.

This development is to be welcomed but some of the biggest promises in the strategy – like extending women's health hubs across the country – have yet to be given any targets or committed funding. Sadly, the challenges facing the NHS are so great that the promised service improvements are unlikely to happen any time soon.



## A local option is available

Better services, more geographical diversity, improved education of GPs and an increase in specialists in women's health conditions should be standard, yet with NHS services under so much strain, the move of women towards private care is understandable – especially when it comes to conditions affected by the gender health gap.

The north west region has some of the best teaching hospitals, so there is no shortage of highly trained, expert clinicians specialising in treating women's gynaecological health.

Opting to see a private gynaecologist can bring considerable relief for many women, and it might not be as costly as they expect. Women in the North West need not look to the capital or one of the region's big cities to find a gynaecologist. There is an option closer to home - a gynaecologist in Lancashire offering excellence in care.

## The Lancashire Gynaecologist

Mr Eric Mutema is a highly experienced and respected Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist who trained in the north west and works as a consultant at the Blackpool Teaching Hospital NHS Trust.

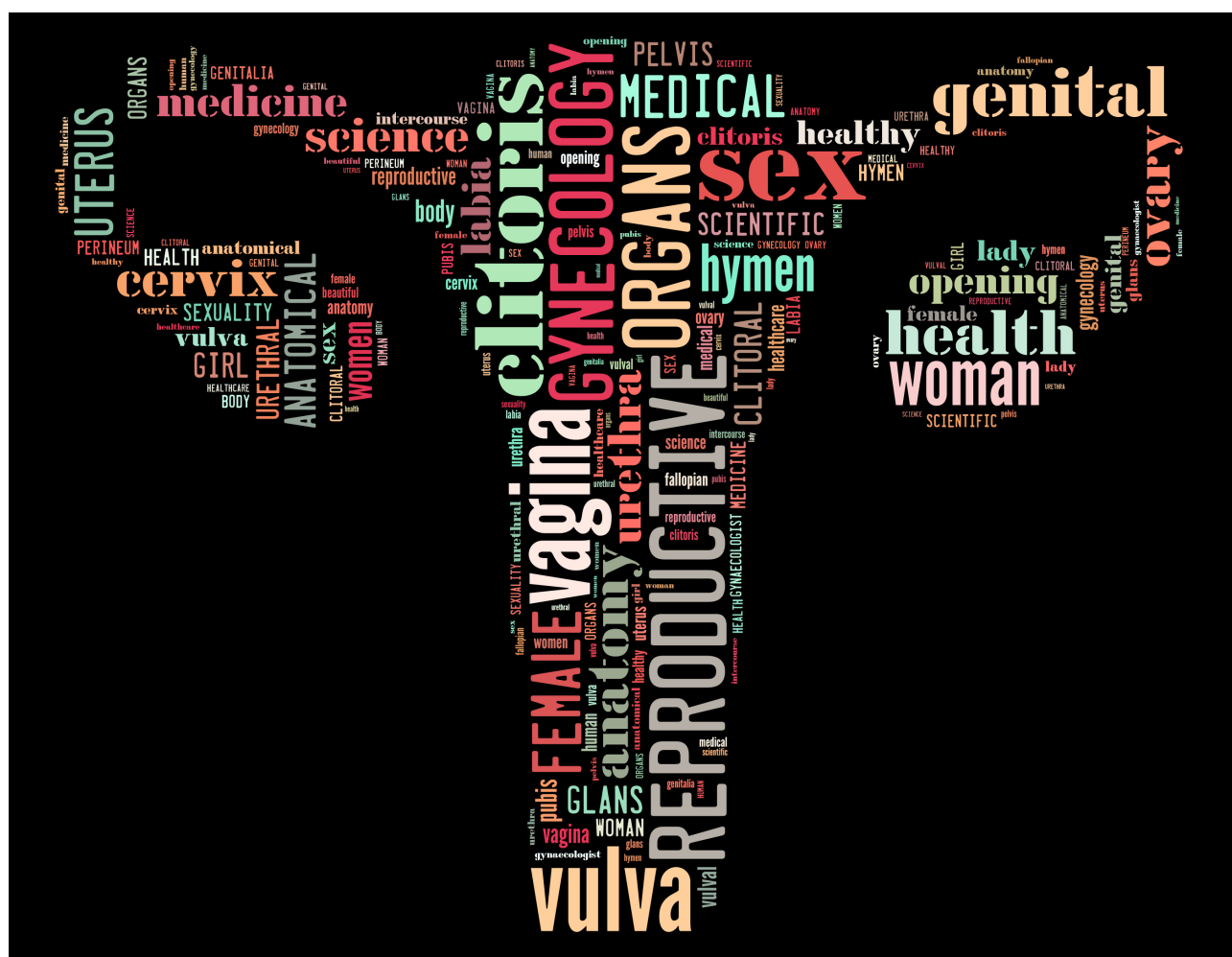
He founded his private practice, the Lancashire Gynaecologist, to provide a service to women in Lancashire and beyond, and respond to the shortage of specialist gynaecological services available to women in the north west who were missing out on individualised care and treatment.

## Services and specialisms

The Lancashire Gynaecologist practice offers general obstetrics and gynaecology patient care; but it also treats a range of conditions including menstrual health, fertility advice, menopause and routine procedures like coil fitting and removal.

After completing specialist training at Liverpool Women's Hospital, Mr Mutema has developed Urogynaecology as his specific area of expertise and can treat all aspects of female pelvic floor problems; including vaginal prolapse, obstetric anal sphincter injuries and urinary incontinence.

Urinary incontinence is estimated to affect one in four mothers and it worsens with the onset of menopause. Evidence shows that women will often recover quickly and have better outcomes from day-case surgery, so Mr Mutema has spearheaded day-case pelvic floor surgery and vaginal hysterectomy practice at his practice, reducing the inconvenience for busy women.



Mr Eric Mutema  
Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist  
MBChB, MRCOG



## Why choose the Lancashire Gynaecologist?

Mr Mutema has wide-ranging gynaecological knowledge, has pioneered effective vaginal surgical procedures and is a leading expert in urinary incontinence – one of the most commonly experienced, but neglected female health conditions.

The Lancashire Gynaecologist offers his patients individual attention, an empathetic, compassionate approach and patient-centred care. His patients will receive a full consultation that takes their overall health into account and subsequent treatments will be tailored to meet the needs of the individual woman. So please don't wait and put off seeking treatment; we're available, convenient and we can help you.



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