



SHARED MATERNITY CARE AT THE WOMEN'S AT PARKVILLE

What is shared maternity care?

With shared maternity care, the Women's Hospital and your chosen GP (family doctor), obstetrician or community midwife 'share your care' during your pregnancy. For most of your routine pregnancy appointments you will see your GP/obstetrician/midwife and you will also have some appointments at the Women's.

Why choose shared care?

Shared care is a popular choice for healthy women with a normal pregnancy.

In choosing shared care you:

- » have most of your care close to your home or work
- » build a relationship with your doctor and continue to see them after your baby is born
- » have fewer hospital visits.

Shared care doctors and midwives may charge some out-of-pocket fees. The amount they charge will vary. Please discuss any questions about this with your chosen doctor/midwife.

The Women's has community clinics in Fawkner, Essendon and Footscray. Depending on where you live, you can choose to attend your hospital appointments at one of these instead of coming into the Hospital. For more information about community clinics visit our website and search Booking and Care Options.

You may choose to stop shared care at any time during your pregnancy by contacting the Shared Care Coordinator. If you develop problems during your pregnancy, shared care may not be suitable and other arrangements will need to be made.

How does shared care work?

Your chosen doctor/midwife must be accredited with the Women's to provide shared care.

If your usual GP is not accredited, the Women's will help you find an accredited community doctor/midwife. For more information visit our website and search for Accreditation and Affiliates List.

If you are healthy with a normal pregnancy, you will be offered the option of shared care at your first Hospital appointment with a doctor. Please let the hospital doctor/midwife know if you would like to choose shared care.

When you start shared care, the Shared Care Coordinator will provide you with a folder containing:

- » your pregnancy record
- » the appointment details of your hospital visits
- » a schedule of visits for your pregnancy care
- » forms for routine tests to be done at the Women's
- » forms for your 26-27 weeks diabetes test and others tests to be done in the community.

It is important to bring your folder to all your shared care doctor/midwife appointments and hospital appointments, including when you come in to have your baby. This is how the doctors and midwives communicate about your care.

You will need to organise your own shared care doctor/midwife appointments.

For more information

Shared Care Coordinator

The Royal Women's Hospital
Tel: (03) 8345 2129
Fax: (03) 8345 2130
Email: sharedcare@thewomens.org.au

Other important contacts at the Women's at Parkville

Royal Women's Hospital Switchboard

(03) 8345 2000

Childbirth Education/Hospital Tours

Book online at thewomens.org.au
Enquiries T (03) 8345 2142

Physiotherapy/Dietician Department

(03) 8345 3160

Women's Welcome Centre

(03) 8345 3037

Please note:

- » **The hospital will organise all your hospital appointments.**
- » **You will need to organise your own shared care doctor/midwife appointments.**
- » **Please bring your pregnancy record to all of your appointments.**

Your shared care doctor/midwife is: _____

(Affix label here)

SCHEDULE OF VISITS

Confirmation of pregnancy

- Visit your GP (local or family doctor) for:
 - » a referral to the Royal Women's Hospital
 - » initial antenatal tests*
 - » Down syndrome test (if you choose, this is best done by the GP)*.

15–18 Weeks

- You will have your first visit at the Royal Women's Hospital or Community Clinic where you will:
 - » see both a hospital midwife and doctor
 - » have a Down syndrome test if not already done (if you choose)*
 - » have additional antenatal tests as required*Child Birth Education/Hospital Tours, book online at thewomens.org.au Enquiries T (03) 8345 2142

16 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)

19–22 Weeks

Ultrasound of your baby*

22 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you).

26–27 Weeks

Test for diabetes, full blood examination, blood antibodies*
This will be done in the community and you will need to fast for this test (allow 2 hours for this test)
If Rh Negative blood type, these tests will be done at the hospital at 28 weeks

28 Weeks

- Visit with hospital midwife:
 - » routine check and appointment with a midwife to discuss having your baby at the Women's and going home with your baby
 - » If Rh negative blood type, Anti D injection givenIf your previous birth was a caesarean you will also see a hospital doctor to discuss your birth options

32 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)

34 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
- or**
- Visit with hospital doctor if Rh negative (Anti D injection) and vaginal swab for Group B Strep*

36 Weeks

- Visit with hospital doctor and vaginal swab for Group B Strep*
- or**
- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you) if Rh negative and had hospital visit and Anti D at 34 weeks

38 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)

39 Weeks

- Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)

40 Weeks

- Depending on when your 40–41 week hospital appointment is please visit your share care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)

40–41 Weeks

- If you have not had your baby you will be seen by a doctor at the hospital. At this visit you may have some tests to check the baby's heart rate and amount of fluid around your baby

After the birth

- Follow-up postnatal appointment with your GP

● Shared maternity care affiliate visit (doctor/midwife)

● Hospital Visit

* Tests