



GP News

Connecting healthcare for the benefit of patients

Assisting FGM/C affected women



Around one in 20 births at the Women's is to a woman born in a country where female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) is practiced to some extent.

Recent Australian research has highlighted the need for health professionals to better understand the health care needs of women with such a history and also the need to inform women about services available to assist them.

The Royal Women's Hospital's **African Women's Clinic** offers support and education as well as the deinfibulation service for women who request it and for whom it is appropriate in the outpatient setting. The service is for non-pregnant and pregnant women.

The service formerly known as the Deinfibulation Clinic is run by a group of specialists led by Dr Khai Mohamed-Noor, the Medical Team Leader (at left in

the photo above).

The Women's has also been providing the [Family and Reproductive Rights Education Program](#) (FARREP) in this area since 1998.

For more information on referrals to the Women's services, visit the Women's website page [Women's Health and Gynaecology referrals](#).

Reaccreditation for Shared Maternity Care Affiliates: 2017-2019

GP and Obstetrician Shared Maternity Care Affiliates are required to complete reaccreditation by 31 December 2016.

This includes Shared Care Affiliates at:

- the Women's
- Mercy Hospital for Women
- Sunshine Hospital
- Northern Hospital

Requirements for re-accreditation are:

- Medical Registration and Medical Indemnity Insurance;
- Ten pregnancy related QI & CPD points **OR** attendance at 2014, 2015 or 2016 annual half day Shared Maternity Care Workshop **OR** attendance at a clinical attachment at one of the hospitals (limited availability)
- Practice accreditation
- Agreement to undertakings.

Reaccreditation applications will be provided to affiliates by 31 October 2016.

For more information, visit the Women's web page [Accreditation and affiliates list](#).

Pregnancy Advisory Service (PAS)

[The Pregnancy Advisory Service \(PAS\) at the Women's](#) provides support and referrals for women who are seeking an abortion or who require counselling about their pregnancy options. PAS also provides a secondary consultation service for GPs.

The demand for PAS appointments exceeds availability and priority is given to

women with a Health Care Card or experiencing medical or social complexity.

Women should contact PAS directly. PAS will assess each woman's individual circumstances, and where appropriate and available will make an appointment for her at the Women's.

REFERRALS

Rather than fax your referral letter to PAS, please provide the letter to your patient and advise her to call PAS Intake directly.

PAS Intake (for women)

ph: (03) 8345 3063

PAS Health professional Direct Line

ph: (03) 8345 3061 (to discuss referrals, urgent situations or if a woman requires advocacy)

For more information, visit the Women's website page [Pregnancy Advisory Service referrals](#).

Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTO) Workshop

Women's Health West, The Royal Women's Hospital, cohealth and North Western Melbourne PHN invite you to attend an information night facilitated by Dr Paddy Moore from The Royal Women's Hospital.

Date and time: Tuesday, 3 May 2016, 6pm

Venue: Yarra Room

North Western Melbourne PHN

Level 1, 369 Royal Parade

Parkville 3052

RSVP by: 28 April 20

RACGP: An application has been made for 4 category 2 points.

Enquiries: events@mpcn.org.au or call (03) 9347 1188

Online registration: www.mpcn.org.au/events

SMCA Collaborative Workshop

Date: Saturday morning, 15 October 2016

Venue: Royal Melbourne Hospital, Ground floor lecture theatre

Bookings will be taken after email invitations are sent in August 2016.

Zika virus and pregnancy



A summary of issues by the [Chief Health Officer Advisory](#)

Additional information:

- Infections with Zika are usually asymptomatic. As such, pregnant women who have travelled to an area during a time of Zika transmission require testing; even if they are asymptomatic.
- The tests ordered and testing protocols differ according to whether a woman is symptomatic or not; and if she is asymptomatic when she returned from a Zika affected area (see – [Australian Department of Health website](#))
- For women booked for care at the Women's; if either PCR or serological testing indicates possible infection, please fax the shared care office with a letter and results on Fax: 8345 2130.

The shared care coordinator will contact the woman with the details of a specialist hospital appointment and also notify you. (Women not booked for care at the Women's should be referred to their usual hospital/obstetrician).

- Pregnant women who have partners that have been to a Zika affected area whilst active transmission has been occurring should refrain from all types of sexual intercourse until after the birth of her baby.

For more information, visit the [Chief Health Officer Advisory](#) website

The Women's Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide provides a quick online reference guide for healthcare professionals. It provides:

- Practical and unbiased specialised information on medicine use in pregnancy and breastfeeding from the Women's clinical specialists
- Information that is updated regularly
- A resource that is quick and easy to use on different devices.

Subscriptions are just \$170 p.a.

For more information, visit the [Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide website](#).

Discharge summary is changing

The Women's is changing its discharge summary template to improve clinical handover to a woman's GP. The template domains will align with national quality and safety standards.

A discharge summary will still be faxed or mailed to a woman's GP but there are plans to move to a secure messaging option.

The new discharge summary is expected to start in May 2016. We will seek feedback from GPs in a few months to check that your needs are being met.

Meanwhile, please send any feedback to the [GP Liaison Unit](#).

Contacts

Fast Fax Referral: Fax: 8345 3036

GP Quick Access Number ph: 8345 2058

The Women's Switchboard ph: 8345 2000

GP Liaison Unit

- **Unit Head** ph: 8345 2064
- **Project Officer** ph: 8345 3070
Email: gp.liaison@thewomens.org.au
- **Shared Care Coordinator** ph: 8345 2129
Email: shared.care@thewomens.org.au

On the Women's website

New and updated Clinical Guidelines

- Drug and Alcohol - Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). This clinical guideline outlines the requirements for management and treatment of infants at risk of NAS at the Women's.

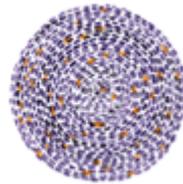
New and updated fact sheets:

- African Women's Clinic. This fact sheet explains what women can expect if they are attending this clinic. Women enquiring about de-infibulation can self-refer to the clinic.

Most popular health information on our website



Contraception



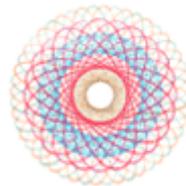
Pregnancy & Birth



Periods



Sex & Sexuality



Breast Health



Breastfeeding

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