

In this edition of GP News, you'll find a wealth of information including COVID updates, referral advice, resources for GPs and training opportunities.

If you have any feedback or questions, please [email us](#).



## My Health Record information

Since 2019, the Women's has been uploading a limited number of basic pathology and imaging results for outpatients to their My Health Record (MyHR).

We are pleased to advise, the Women's is now sending more information from pathology and radiology reports to MyHR. Both inpatient and outpatient reports will now be uploaded improving the consistency and timeliness of information on MyHR.

Obstetric ultrasound reports will not be uploaded at this stage.

MyHR has an inherent 7-day delay from when a result/report is uploaded to when a patient can view the result/report. However, health providers can access the result/report during the 7-day period. At times, there are intentional delays in uploading information for patients to view on their MyHR. This gives health providers time to contact the patient first, if necessary. The table below shows the results/reports and timelines for uploading to MyHR from the Women's, Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH) and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (PMCC).

Please be sure to keep a copy of the table below for future reference.

Category	Available for patients to view in MyHR	Available for external clinicians to view in MyHR	Test reports	Comment
<b>Group 1: Immediate to MyHR</b>	Within 24 hours	Within 24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID tests</li> </ul>	
<b>Group 2: Immediate to MyHR</b>	7 days	Within 24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biochemistry</li> <li>Haematology</li> <li>Most Microbiology</li> <li>Serology</li> <li>Virology</li> <li>Plain Imaging (x-rays)</li> </ul>	Note: RMH and PMCC pathology reports expansion are not included in tis project release stage due to technical issues. A subsequent release will be arranged and communicated when the issue is resolved.
<b>Group 3: Delayed to MyHR</b>	7 weeks	6 weeks*	<p>All other radiology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CT</li> <li>MRI</li> <li>Ultrasound</li> <li>PET</li> <li>Angiography</li> <li>Mammography</li> <li>Nuclear medicine</li> <li>Fluoroscopy</li> <li>DEXA</li> <li>Dental</li> <li>Histology / Anatomical Pathology</li> <li>Tumour Markers</li> <li>Micro: blood borne viruses</li> <li>Diagnostic genetics</li> <li>Immunology</li> <li>Flow cytometry</li> <li>Andrology</li> <li>Bone marrow &amp; flow</li> </ul>	Note: RMH and PMCC pathology reports expansion are not included in tis project release stage due to technical issues. A subsequent release will be arranged and communicated when the issue is resolved.
<b>Group 4: Excluded</b>	Never	Never	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forensic</li> <li>Point of care tests (i.e. blood gases)</li> <li>Predictive genetic tests</li> <li>Clinical trial tests</li> <li>Transfusion/blood bank</li> </ul>	Transfusion/blood bank will be included in a later release stage

*\*This delay may be reviewed in future*



## Early medical abortion - online training module

We encourage GPs to undertake a new online training module on best practice early medical abortion care.

Funded by the Victorian Department of Health, the module was created by the Women's to support the learning needs of a range of healthcare workers,

including GPs, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, nurse practitioners and social workers.

Cath Hannon, Project Manager for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinical Champion Project at the Women's, says the module complements the official training GPs and pharmacists must undertake to become providers of early medical abortion.

"We want more Victorian healthcare workers to feel confident in supporting their pregnant patients in the choices they make about their reproductive health," Cath says. "Women and pregnant people who are seeking an early medical abortion should be able to access this service, close to their home and their communities."

[Enrol here](#)



**Prevention is in your hands.**

**NATIONAL CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAM**  
A joint Australian, State and Territory Government Program



## Do-it-yourself cervical cancer screening

Women due for cervical screening can now choose to self-collect a sample themselves, rather than having a cervical screening test (previously known as a Pap test). As GPs are the major provider of cervical screening services in Australia, you have an important role to play in promoting and educating patients around the self-collection option.

About 900 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer in Australia each

year, with about 70 per cent of these cases occurring in women who have never had a cervical screening test or are not up-to-date with their screening. In the past, some women avoided having a cervical screening test, due to discomfort or trauma (particularly for those who have experienced sexual violence or abuse).

The Women's Cancer Research Centre and Colposcopy Clinic is pleased to have been involved - over the last few years - in trialling the efficacy of self-

collection tests. Our contribution to these trials helped demonstrate that self-collected tests are as effective in detecting human papillomavirus (the cause of most cervical cancers), as tests collected by a doctor using a speculum.

To find out more about self-collection, visit this [Australian Government website](#).

## COVID-19 vaccination and pregnancy

The COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy was updated in late August, to include recommendations on a 2nd booster dose (also known as a 4th dose) in pregnant women.

Some of the key points and recommendations include:

- Pregnant women and adolescents aged 16 years and older with a medical condition or disability that puts them at greater risk of severe COVID-19 should receive the 2nd booster dose.
- Pregnant women with no other medical conditions or disability:
  - and aged below 30 years of age, are not currently recommended to receive a 2nd booster dose based on the low likelihood of severe disease,
  - and aged 30-49 years, may receive a 2nd booster dose. However the benefit for people in this age group is uncertain because the risk of severe disease in women who have received three doses of vaccine appears very low.
- A 2nd booster dose is recommended for people aged 50 years and older. This may also apply to a very small number of women who are pregnant and over 50 years.
- The preferred vaccines for pregnant people are Pfizer or Moderna. Pregnant people who cannot have these vaccines can have Novavax or AstraZeneca.



[Download the decision guide](#)



## Re-credentialing as Shared Maternity Care Affiliates

In the next few weeks, the Women's will email applications for re-credentialing to all our GP and obstetrician Shared Maternity Care Affiliates. Applications will be sent to the email address we currently have on file so **if you have changed your email address, please let us know.**

To be re-credentialled, GPs must have undertaken **five hours** of

pregnancy-related education during the 2020-2022 triennium. This requirement does not apply to obstetricians.

We have compiled a [database](#) of pregnancy-related education (both face-to-face and online) and the respective pregnancy-related education hours. Some of the sessions have or will be recorded for viewing. On completion, you can self-record your attendance, via your RACGP learning portal.

If you have undertaken education that is not on the database, please send us a copy of the program so we can update our database and share with other affiliates. Course programs must be provided to ensure content meets the criteria for allocated time.

Courses or other educational activities must have content related to pregnancy, rather than solely women's health or gynecology. Should an activity (such as women's health) include a segment on pregnancy related issues, we will review the content to assess how much time can be applied towards pregnancy-related education.



## CPD: Shared Maternity Care affiliate workshops

CPD points obtained will be applicable as pregnancy related CPD points for the upcoming re-credentialing cycle.

### Workshop 1:

Wednesday 19 October

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Zoom Webinar (4 CPD points)

*[Visit the CPD page on our website](#) for more details and to register for Workshop 1.*



**COVID-19 and pregnancy**



**Third-trimester issues**

**Dr Rachel Ryan**

**Dr Vicki Woodward**

Obstetrician, The Royal  
Women's Hospital

Obstetrician and Gynaecologist,  
The Royal Women's Hospital

More information or to register

---

## Workshop 2:

Wednesday 26 October

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Zoom Webinar

**[Visit the event page](#)** for more details and to register for Workshop 1.



### GDM in shared care

**Dr Suresh Varadarajan**

Endocrinology Head of Unit,  
Northern Hospital



### Care of pregnant women above & below healthy weight

**A/Prof Glyn Teale,**

Obstetrician, Gynaecologist and  
Clinical Services Director,  
Women's and Children's  
Services, Western Health

More information or to register

---

## Webinar: Cervical Cancer Screening & Elimination

*- Including self-collection and  
updated screening guidelines.*

Prof Marion Saville AM, Angela  
Steele, Dr David Wrede.

The recording of this session (50  
minutes) is available on [Vimeo](#) (not  
pregnancy-related CPD points).



Watch recording on Vimeo



## IUD insertion: Small group simulation-based intrauterine device (IUD) insertion training for GPs

We are pleased that the Royal Women's Hospital in collaboration with Bayer Women's Health will hold a small group training session on:

**Date:** Wednesday 9 November 2022

**Time:** 6pm-8.30pm

**Location:** In person at the Royal Women's Hospital

**Cost:** Free

Numbers are extremely limited.

To express interest, please contact [Ines.Rio@thewomens.org.au](mailto:Ines.Rio@thewomens.org.au)

Learn more on our website

## Parkville Connect

Parkville Connect is a healthcare portal that provides GPs, specialists and other community health practitioners access to the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) of their patients receiving care at the Women's, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital and Peter Mac.

Currently, the EMR does not enable automated cc of results (pathology and imaging) to Shared Maternity Care Affiliates, GPs and other external providers, so one way to access these results is via Parkville Connect.

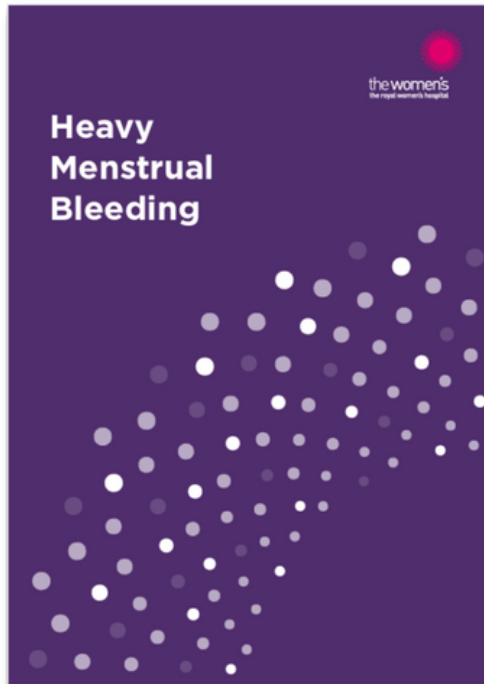
**Via Parkville Connect you can view:**

- upcoming and past hospital visits
- inpatient and outpatient progress notes
- discharge and after-visit summaries
- laboratory and imaging results
- allergies, medical history and medications.



To register your practice and associated clinicians for Parkville Connect, please ensure that all your practice information is up to date in the National Health Services Directory (NHSD). It is recommended that all clinicians are included when registering your practice.

To register, visit: [parkvilleconnect.org.au](https://parkvilleconnect.org.au). Please send any specific queries to [support@parkvilleconnect.org.au](mailto:support@parkvilleconnect.org.au)



## Heavy menstrual bleeding - updated booklet

Heavy menstrual bleeding, heavy periods or menorrhagia is a common health complaint. It affects one in five Australian women and may be the reason for many hysterectomies and other surgical procedures.

The Women's has recently updated its Heavy Menstrual Bleeding booklet, which provides information about the causes of heavy menstrual bleeding, how it may be investigated and what treatments are available.

This 25-page booklet is a helpful resource for medical professionals and patients. Download our [Heavy Menstrual Bleeding booklet](#).

## COVID-19 updates

If you are caring for a patient who tests positive for COVID during pregnancy, please call our Parkville or Sandringham hospitals and ask to speak with the **COVID Liaison Midwife**.

This midwife will call your patient, assess them, and arrange a care plan/referrals to other services.

Alternatively, you can ask your patient to call our hospitals directly to ask to speak with the COVID Liaison Midwife.



### For resources on the use of antivirals in pregnancy:

- **Visit** the [HealthPathways Melbourne - COVID-19 in Pregnancy](#) webpage. This includes information about Maternity Care Pathways, assessment and treatments including the use of remdesivir or sotrovima.
- **Call** the Victorian COVID-19 therapies PBS prescriber helpline on [\(03\) 8290 3801](#). It is available 7 days a week (8am - 5pm) and staffed by Alfred Health pharmacists experienced in the prescription of COVID-19 early therapies.

The Women's [COVID-19 Information Hub](#) has up-to-date information about hospital appointments and admissions, as well as advice for pregnant and breastfeeding women.



## Recent news from the Women's

- [Improving access to cervical cancer screening](#)
- [Dr Paddy Moore nationally recognised](#)
- [Happy Father's Day to two recipients of our sperm preservation services](#)
- [Lord Mayor appointed as the Women's first Philanthropy Ambassador](#)
- [Navigating the grief of infant loss](#)
- [Pregnant and diagnosed with brain cancer](#)
- [Navigating life after NICU](#)

### Contact us

Dr Ines Rio, Head GP Liaison Unit

P: (03) 8345 2064

E: [gp.liaison@thewomens.org.au](mailto:gp.liaison@thewomens.org.au)

Fast Fax Referral

F: (03) 8345 3036

GP Quick Access Number

P: (03) 8345 2058

Shared Maternity Care Coordinator

P: (03) 8345 2129

E: [shared.care@thewomens.org.au](mailto:shared.care@thewomens.org.au)

The Women's Switchboard

P: (03) 8345 2000

The Women's Abortion & Contraception Service

P: [\(03\) 8345 2832](tel:(03)83452832) (professional line only – not for use by women needing the service)



[Forward email](#)

You are receiving this email because you have subscribed to receive updates from the Women's GP Liaison Unit. [Unsubscribe](#)

*The Royal Women's Hospital acknowledges and pays respect to the peoples of the Kulin Nations, the Traditional Custodians of the Country on which our sites at Parkville and Sandringham stand.*

Copyright © 2022 The Royal Women's Hospital

[Unsubscribe](#)

