

Special update - Public Fertility Service

We are getting in touch to provide all our GP subscribers with information about the new [Public Fertility Service](#), announced by the Victorian Government last week.

The below provides information on:

- who is eligible for this service
- how you can refer eligible patients to this service
- the tests and investigations that you will need to order for your patient and provide before their first appointment with us.

Referrals from GPs and specialists for this service are now open.

In addition to the Women's, [Monash Health Fertility](#) is also a provider of public fertility services.

We hope you find the below information useful.

What treatments does this service provide?

Through this new service, individuals and families will be able to access a full range of integrated public fertility services including:

- fertility assessment and management, including consultations, fertility investigations, ovulation monitoring/tracking and ovulation induction
- assisted reproductive treatments, as well as counselling, information and support
- a publicly run fertility preservation program so people with cancer or other health issues can have their tissue stored and retrieved for future use
- the first publicly funded sperm and egg bank for Victoria.

Costs

The cost of our public hospital services will be free for most people.

Some patients may have out-of-pocket costs for medication, diagnostics and/or specialised tests.

Who is eligible?

Our publicly-funded fertility service is available to all Victorian residents – including same-sex and other couples and single people with a donor.

Our [public fertility service](#) is subject to the following criteria:

- patient must be a Victorian resident and holder of a Medicare card

- the egg to be fertilised (either patient's own or from a donor) must be no older than 42 years at time of treatment. This means that women using their own eggs must be 42 or less at time of egg collection.

Please note: For the public fertility service, there is a maximum of two treatment cycles (IVF or ICSI) per person.

If your patient does not meet the criteria for the publicly funded service, they may be eligible for our long-established [low-cost fertility service](#).

How to refer a patient

If you are considering referring a patient to our public fertility service, the referral will need to include the results of the below investigations and tests. All referrals will be valid for 12 months.

Note: If you are referring a patient who is part of a couple (as opposed to a single person) who has been trying to conceive naturally, you can refer your patient if:

- the woman is aged under 35 years and has tried to become pregnant for one year or more and has not become pregnant
- the woman is aged 35-42 and has tried to become pregnant for six months or more and has not become pregnant.

Referrals can be faxed to the Women's usual Fast Fax number: **(03) 8345 3036**.

Referrals	<i>All referrals are valid for 12 months.</i>	
Required tests to order and send with your referral	Primary patient investigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B & C • HIV • Cervical screening test (CST) • Rubella • Varicella • Syphilis • FBE • Blood group & antibodies • FSH • LH • Prolactin • Ferritin • Progesterone (day 21 for irregular cycles) • TSH • Estradiol (E2) • Free testosterone • Sex Hormone Binding Globulin (SHBG) • Chlamydia/Gonorrhoea urine or endocervical PCR (if appropriate) • Pelvic ultrasound (trans-vaginal if possible) • Karyotype (if appropriate) 	Partner tests (if they are accessing this service with a partner): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B & C • HIV • Karyotype (if appropriate) • Male hormones (if appropriate) • Semen analysis • Semen antibodies (if appropriate)

Useful resources

Public Fertility Service

Information page for potential patients of the Women's

Reproductive Services Clinic

Information for GPs, clinicians and other healthcare professionals

Better Health Channel

An online fact sheet about public fertility care services

Department of Health news

"Public IVF To Make Starting A Family Easier For Victorians"

Contact us

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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

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)



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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.

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