

SHARED MATERNITY CARE AT THE WOMEN'S

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 or have a telephone/teleconference with your GP/obstetrician/midwife.

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. Please discuss this with your shared care doctor/midwife.

If you develop problems during your pregnancy and shared care is not suitable, we will change your model of care.

Shared care information

When you start shared care, the Shared Care Coordinator will mail you by post a folder containing:

- » your pregnancy record
- » a maternity wheel that includes your hospital appointment times
- » a schedule of visits for your pregnancy care (this form)
- » forms for your 26-27 weeks diabetes and others tests to be done in the community

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

It is important to collect your visit notes and bring these to all your shared care and hospital appointments, including when you come in to have your baby. This is how the doctors and midwives communicate about your care.

Please use your My Health Record (MHR) and encourage your shared care doctor/midwife to upload visit notes and test results to MHR.

Your hospital appointments and information

On Health Hub you can view your hospital appointments (excluding ultrasound), results, visit notes and access the "Pregnancy Education Companion" that tells you what you can expect in pregnancy. Visit: www.thewomens.org.au/patients-visitors/parkville-health-hub

Pregnancy and childbirth information

Visit the Women's website for information on your pregnancy and birth:

<https://www.thewomens.org.au/patients-visitors/clinics-and-services/pregnancy-birth>

Read our factsheets: www.thewomens.org.au/health-information/fact-sheets

Take a hospital virtual tour, view childbirth education videos or book online childbirth education classes:

www.thewomens.org.au/patients-visitors/cbe/

COVID-19

Keep up with the latest guidance on the COVID-19 Information Hub on the Women's website. Please contact your care provider by phone before your visit if you are unwell or have tested positive for COVID.

Postpartum care

Following the birth of your baby, you will be seen at home by the Women's midwives. Your local Maternal and Child Health service will then contact you for a home visit. You should also book an extended appointment with your GP at 6 weeks post birth for a check for you and your baby.

For more information

Shared Maternity Care Coordinator

The Royal Women's Hospital

Tel: (03) 8345 2129 Fax: (03) 8345 2130

Email: sharedcare@thewomens.org.au

Other important contacts:

Website: www.thewomens.org.au

Hospital Switchboard: (03) 8345 2000

In labour? (03) 8345 3635











Private Patient Liaison: (03) 8345 2929


NOTE

- » The hospital will organise your hospital appointments
- » You need to organise your appointments with your shared care doctor/midwife
- » Please collect your visit notes and bring them to all your appointments
- » Please ask your shared care doctor/midwife to upload your visit notes and test results to your My Health Record

Your shared care doctor/midwife is:

SCHEDULE OF VISITS: (Routine, Blood Group Rh Positive)

Initial visits to GP for confirmation, tests and referral	Visit/s to your GP for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Initial antenatal tests* » Down syndrome test (if you choose, this is best ordered by your GP)* » Referral to the Royal Women's Hospital, which includes: your expected date of delivery, blood pressure, Body Mass Index (BMI), history and test results
 15–18 Weeks (May be non-face to face)	You will have your first visit at the Royal Women's Hospital where you will also have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » A Down syndrome test if not already done (if you choose)* » Additional antenatal tests as required*
 16 Weeks	Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
20–22 Weeks	Ultrasound of your baby (usually in the community and ordered by your shared care doctor/midwife)*
 22 Weeks	Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
26–27 Weeks	Tests in the community*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Tests for diabetes, full blood examination, blood antibodies, syphilis » You can have this done at any pathology centre in the community. Use the form provided by the hospital » Please do this about a week before your hospital visit. You may need to call ahead to book » You need to fast from midnight – water is fine to drink. Allow 2 hours for this test.
 28 Weeks	Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
Around 28 weeks a hospital midwife will contact you to discuss having your baby at the Women's and going home with your baby After 20 weeks you should have a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccination with your shared care doctor/midwife. During your pregnancy you should have an influenza (flu) vaccination with your shared care doctor/midwife.	
 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)
 36 Weeks	Visit with hospital doctor for a check <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Vaginal swab for Group B Strep*
 38 Weeks	Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
 39-40 Weeks	Visit your shared care doctor/midwife (to be booked by you)
 41 Weeks	If you have not had your baby you will be seen at the hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » At this visit you may have tests to check the baby's heart rate and amount of fluid around your baby*
After the birth	Home visits by the Women's midwives Maternal and Child Health home visit Follow-up postnatal appointment with your GP for you and your baby (6 weeks post birth)

 Shared maternity care doctor/midwife visit

 Hospital Visit

* Tests