

# SHARED MATERNITY CARE AT THE WOMEN'S SANDRINGHAM



the women's  
the royal women's hospital  
victoria australia

Shared maternity care means that during your pregnancy you can see the same GP or obstetrician for most of your pregnancy visits with some visits at the hospital. Together, the hospital and your chosen community doctor will 'share your care'. The birth of your baby is at the Women's at Sandringham Hospital.

## Why choose shared care?

Shared Care is a popular choice for women who are healthy with a normal pregnancy.

In choosing Shared Care you:

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

Shared Care doctors may charge some out of pocket fees. This amount varies. Please discuss any questions about this with your chosen doctor.

You may choose to stop Shared Care at any time during your pregnancy by contacting the Shared Care Clerk on (03) 9076 1233 at the Women's at Sandringham Hospital. If you develop problems during your pregnancy then Shared Care may not be suitable and your Shared Care may be ceased.

## How does shared care work?

Your chosen doctor must be accredited with the Women's to provide Shared Care.

You can still choose Shared Care if your usual GP is not accredited. The hospital will help you find an accredited community doctor.

At your first appointment at the hospital, you will be given the choice of Shared Care if you are healthy with a normal pregnancy.

Please let the hospital know if you would like to do Shared Care.

When you start Shared Care, the Shared Care Clerk 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 (please note that the hospital visits will be made for you, but you will need to organise your own local doctor appointments)
- » forms for any tests to be performed at the Women's at Sandringham.

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

## For more information

Visit the Women's website and search for the **Bookings and Care Options**. Here you will find more information about shared care including your schedule of visits and a list of accredited community doctors. [www.thewomens.org.au](http://www.thewomens.org.au)

Alternatively you can contact:

### Shared Care Clerk

The Royal Women's Hospital at Sandringham

T 03 9076 1554 F 03 9076 1595

E [sharedcare.sandringham@thewomens.org.au](mailto:sharedcare.sandringham@thewomens.org.au)

## Other important contacts at the Women's

### The Royal Women's Hospital at Sandringham

T (03) 9076 1233

### Childbirth Education

T (03) 9076 1233

### Physiotherapy

T (03) 9076 1552

### Women's Welcome Centre

T (03) 8345 3037

**This schedule lists the minimum visits recommended during your pregnancy care.** These may vary according to your needs. It is important that you attend all your appointments.

**Please note** that it is your responsibility to book all appointments with your shared care doctor. The hospital will organise all your hospital appointments.

Your shared care doctor is: \_\_\_\_\_

(Affix label here)

## SCHEDULE OF VISITS

<b>Confirmation of pregnancy</b>	<p>Visit your local doctor (GP) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» A referral to the Royal Women's Hospital</li> <li>» Initial antenatal tests *</li> <li>» Down syndrome test (if you choose this, it is best done by your GP between 10 and 13 weeks) *</li> </ul>
<b>15–18 Weeks</b>	<p>● You will have your first visit at the Women's at Sandringham around now where you will see a hospital midwife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Down syndrome test if not already done (if you choose) *</li> <li>» Additional antenatal tests as required *</li> <li>» Book your Childbirth Education classes</li> </ul>
<b>16 Weeks</b>	● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)
<b>18–20 Weeks</b>	Ultrasound of your baby *
<b>22 Weeks</b>	● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)
<b>28 Weeks</b>	<p>● Visit with hospital doctor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Routine check and appointment with a midwife to discuss having your baby at the Women's at Sandringham and discharge planning</li> <li>» Test for Gestational Diabetes, Full Blood Examination, Blood Antibodies *</li> <li>» If Rh negative blood type, Anti D injection given</li> </ul> <p>If your previous birth was a caesarean you will also see a hospital doctor to discuss your birth options</p>
<b>32 Weeks</b>	● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)
<b>34 Weeks</b> ^	<p>● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)</p> <p>or</p> <p>● <i>Visit with hospital midwife/doctor if Rh negative (Anti D injection) and vaginal swab for Group B Strep *</i></p>
<b>36 Weeks</b> ^	<p>● Visit with hospital doctor vaginal swab for Group B Strep</p> <p>or</p> <p>● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you) if Rh negative and had hospital visit and Anti D at 34 weeks</p>
<b>38 Weeks</b>	● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)
<b>40 Weeks</b>	● Visit your shared care doctor (to be booked by you)
<b>41 Weeks</b>	● If you have not had your baby you will be seen by a doctor at the hospital. At this visit you are likely to have some tests to check the baby's heart rate and amount of fluid around your baby. *
<b>After the birth</b>	Follow up postnatal appointment with GP

● Shared Maternity Care Affiliate visit

● Hospital visits

\* Tests which may be required

^ The location of your visit at 34 weeks and 36 weeks will depend on whether you are Rh negative (blood type)