



Shared maternity care at Osborne Park Hospital

Patient information



With shared maternity care, your pregnancy care is shared between Osborne Park Hospital and your local community clinician, such as your general practitioner (GP), private practicing midwife or GP obstetrician, referred to as your shared care provider.

Shared maternity care is available to women who have a low-risk pregnancy, which means they are healthy and have a normal pregnancy. Most of your pregnancy care will be provided by your shared care provider. Your baby will be born in hospital.

The model offers continuity, flexibility and support throughout your pregnancy journey.

How the shared care pathway works

Communication between your shared care provider and the Osborne Park Hospital maternity team is documented in your WA Handheld Pregnancy Record (the orange book).

It is important to remember to take this book to every antenatal appointment.

During early pregnancy care (until 36 weeks pregnant)

- Your care begins with a shared care provider.
- They will send a referral to Osborne Park Hospital to request you take part in the shared maternity care model.
- Once we receive your referral, we assign a dedicated midwife at Osborne Park Hospital, who becomes your point of contact at the hospital for antenatal care and postnatal support.

Your first appointment at Osborne Park Hospital

- Your first appointment will be scheduled between 16 to 20 weeks of pregnancy. This appointment will take place via telehealth.
- This appointment is for you to get to know the maternity team at the hospital and ask any questions about your planned hospital birth.
- Assuming no other complications, your shared care provider will continue your care until 36 weeks pregnant.

Your hospital care from 36 weeks

- When you reach 36 weeks, your shared care provider will hand over your care to the hospital maternity team, to help you prepare for birth.
- You will begin appointments with the hospital maternity team from that point.
- These appointments usually happen every two weeks at the hospital but may occur more often.

During your labour and birth

- Your care during labour will be provided by midwives and doctors at the hospital.
- Some GP obstetricians are also employed at Osborne Park Hospital, but they will only attend your birth if they are on call that day and medical involvement is required.

Postnatal support

After the birth, you will be supported by a midwife team from the hospital for the first five days.

After the first five days of care, your postnatal care will then be provided by your shared care provider.

Important contacts

If you are 36 weeks pregnant or more, call Osborne Park Hospital with any questions or concerns on **(08) 6457 8000**.

The Assessment Unit at Osborne Park Hospital is open 24/7 for urgent support. You can call the unit at any time if:

- You are experiencing reduced fetal movement
- There are signs of labour
- There is rupture of membranes (your waters have broken)
- Or if something doesn't feel right.

The maternity team is here to support you every step of the way with compassion, clarity and commitment to your wellbeing.

After you give birth, remember to contact your shared care provider so they can begin planning your postnatal follow-up after the first five days of birth.



The information provided is for information purposes only. If you are a patient using this publication, you should seek assistance from a healthcare professional when interpreting these materials and applying them to your individual circumstances.



Women and Newborn Health Service

King Edward Memorial Hospital

📍 374 Bagot Road, Subiaco WA 6008

☎ (08) 6458 2222

🌐 kemh.health.wa.gov.au

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