

REFERRAL GUIDELINES: MATERNITY SERVICE- Transitions Alcohol and Drug Clinic

REFERRAL GUIDELINES: MATERNITY SERVICE – TRANSITIONS ALCOHOL AND DRUG CLINIC

In order for us to be able to accept your patient for antenatal care, referring GPs/medical specialists are required to provide:



Essential Referral Content

Demographics	Clinical		Investigations and results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full name • Address and phone numbers • Date of birth • Indigenous status for patient and spouse • Referring GP details • Health insurance details • Preferred language and interpreter requirements • Medicare eligibility & number • Mobility needs 	<p>Current history</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNMP • Multiple pregnancies • BMI • EDD • Height and weight • Female circumcision • Parity and gravida • Pap smear <p>Past History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-eclampsia • Small baby <2500g at term • Preterm birth • Previous caesareans • Rhesus isoimmunisation • Mid-trimester loss or miscarriage • Gestational diabetes • Miscarriages >3 	<p>Medical history</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes • Epilepsy • Thalassaemia/haemoglobinopathy • Hypertension • Thyroid disease • Current smoker • Asthma • Anaemia • DVT or pulmonary • Previous cone biopsy • High blood pressure • Psychiatric disorders • Heart disease • Illicit drug use • Alcohol and other drugs • Allergies 	<p>Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBE • Syphilis serology • MSU/urinalysis • Hepatitis B and C • Blood group and Antibodies • Vitamin D • Dating ultrasound • HIV serology • Rubella • Varicella • Morphology 20-week ultrasound • Ferritin • Thalassaemia testing (if indicated by MCV ≤80) • Screening for Down syndrome if requested by the patient

Populate required information on the [Maternity referral form](#) then print and fax to the relevant outpatient department on **03 8458 4205**

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REFERRAL PROCESS: MATERNITY SERVICE – TRANSITIONS ALCOHOL AND DRUG CLINIC

Fax to the Mercy Hospital for Women Outpatient Department on **03 8458 4205**

 **STEP 1**

Essential referral content will be checked. You will be contacted if further information is required.

Please indicate the patient's preferred model of care on the referral form.

If requesting an urgent review please include relevant detail and results.

Acknowledgment of referral receipt will occur within **eight** working days.

 **STEP 2**

The referral will be triaged by the specialist unit according to clinical criteria and patient preference.

This determines how long the patient will have to wait for their first antenatal appointment.

 **STEP 3**

Patients with urgent conditions are scheduled to be seen within 30 days.

Patients are allocated an antenatal clinic appointment.

The date for the appointment will depend on the model of care and clinical acuity.

Both the referrer and patient are notified.

If you have not received a response to your referral within eight working days, please call our central booking office on 03 8458 4111

If you wish to speak to a doctor to determine urgency, call Mercy Hospital for Women on **03 8458 4444** and ask to speak to the Darebin Registrar or Transitions Midwife.



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REFERRAL PRIORITY: **MATERNITY SERVICE – TRANSITIONS ALCOHOL AND DRUG CLINIC**

The clinical information provided in your referral will determine the triage category. The triage category will affect the timeframe in which the patient is offered an appointment.

Referral priority	Appointment timeframe
Urgent	Within 30 days depending on clinical need
Routine	Longer than 30 days depending on clinical need

OTHER INFORMATION: **TRANSITIONS ALCOHOL AND DRUG CLINIC**

The Transitions Alcohol and Drug Clinic provides specialist multidisciplinary care for pregnant women with substance use issues. If making a referral please note the following:

- We provide obstetric and paediatric care to pregnant women who currently or recently had issues with cannabis, heroin, ice, alcohol, prescription medications or other substances.
- We are staffed by obstetricians (including a methadone prescriber) midwives, social workers, a paediatrician, a dietitian, a psychologist and a psychiatrist.
- Midwives provide one-on-one antenatal education with a specific focus on substance use.
- Women on methadone and buprenorphine programs or needing to be stabilised on methadone are also appropriate referrals.
- A drug and alcohol assessment is taken at the first visit and appropriate counselling and referrals organised.
- It is important that you take an accurate and up-to-date drug history (drug type, amount, frequency, etc.) to enable risk assessment and timely booking of appropriate appointments.
- Missing information will result in delays in processing your patient's referral, so please include all relevant clinical information to avoid this occurring.
- Although many patients would not be suitable for the Shared Care Program, the staff work closely with GPs and are flexible regarding individualised arrangements where appropriate.



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USEFUL RESOURCES: [MATERNITY SERVICE – TRANSITIONS ALCOHOL AND DRUG CLINIC](#)

Mercy Hospital for Women

Tests	<u>Bookings visit checklist</u>
GP and Primary Care Liaison	<u>Information</u>
Maternity Services	<u>Details</u>
Referrals	<u>Forms and Guidelines</u>

INTERPRETING SERVICES

A proportion of our patients have limited or no proficiency in English. In these cases, we engage professional interpreters for communication with our clinicians. To enable access to appropriate interpreting service, please ensure that your referral includes information on the preferred language spoken by the patient and their need for an interpreter.



Mercy Health
Care first

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For more information please contact the Maternity Service:

Mercy Hospital for Women Maternity

Level 3

163 Studley Road

Heidelberg Vic 3084

Phone: 03 8458 4111 Fax: 03 8458 4205