

CAN I ASK FOR A FEMALE DOCTOR?



When having a physical examination, it is important you feel comfortable. At Mercy hospitals we offer our patients the ability to book a female doctor, where available, to improve comfort.

About our staff

Our medical, midwifery and nursing staff:

- are trained to be respectful of patients' cultural and personal needs
- care about your dignity and privacy
- want to be sure that you get the very best care by the most appropriate health professional.

Where can you book a female doctor?

Outpatient Clinics

If you wish to see a female doctor in our outpatient clinics, it is best to call and book ahead to see if this can be arranged. To book please call the following clinics during business hours:

Werribee Hospital:

- Antenatal clinic appointments - (03) 8754 3390
- All other outpatient clinic appointments - (03) 8754 6700

Mercy Hospital for Women:

- Outpatient department - (03) 8458 4215

Where a female doctor is not available, a female midwife or nurse can be with you during the examination.

If you must see a female doctor and the clinic you need does **not** have a female doctor, we may need to send you back to your GP for a referral to go elsewhere.

Emergency Department, Maternity Services and Fetal Monitoring

In these departments female and male staff work closely together in teams. Each team member has a specialised role and could be either male or female. For this reason, there are some days where it may be more difficult to see a female doctor.

If your doctor is male, you can rest assured because:

- Staff will make sure that a female midwife or nurse is present during your examination
- You can have a friend or family member with you during his examination.

Operating Theatre

In our operating theatres, male and female staff work closely together in teams. During an operation, there is usually a female nurse present. However, we are unable to ensure you have only female doctors and/or anaesthetists.



For more information

If you have any questions or need further advice, please call us:

- Monday to Friday
- 8:00am to 4:30pm on:

Werribee Hospital

Antenatal Clinics: (03) 8754 3390

Specialist Clinics: (03) 8754 6700

Other Outpatient Clinics: (03) 8754 6700

Mercy Hospital for Women

Outpatient Department (03) 8458 4215

In the event of an emergency, please dial **000** for an ambulance or go to your nearest Mercy Health or other hospital emergency department.

MERCY HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN

HEIDELBERG

8458 4444

Contact Numbers

Birthing Suites	8458 4058
Diabetes Education	8458 4164
Dietician	8458 4165
Fetal Monitoring	8458 4266
Genetic Counsellor	8458 4346
GP Liaison Officer	8458 4831
Interpreters	8458 4282
Lactation Consultant	8458 4677
Medical Imaging	8458 4300
Outpatients Department	8458 4111
Parent Education	8458 4152
Patient Liaison Officer	8458 4807
Pharmacy	8458 4666
Physiotherapy	8458 4281
Pregnancy Assessment Centre	8458 4266
Social Work	8458 4149