

Obstetric Shared Care Midwife Coordinators

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GP Obstetric
SHARED CARE SA



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Are you pregnant
and planning to have your
baby at a public hospital?

Would you like to have your GP
and hospital share the care of you
and your baby during pregnancy?



What is GP Obstetric Shared Care?

An option of pregnancy care for women birthing at South Australian urban public hospitals.

Your GP provides most of your pregnancy care with minimal hospital visits required.

Obstetric Shared Care Midwife Coordinators will liaise with you and your family, your GP, the hospital and other agencies as necessary.

Your GP must follow clear protocols for your care and be accredited with the GP Obstetric Shared Care Program SA ensuring a high standard of care.

If any complications develop during your pregnancy, your GP will refer you back to the hospital for specialist care as required.

Hospital doctors and midwives will care for you during labour and birth.

Your GP provides the care after discharge from hospital for you and your baby.

Who is this program for?

GP Obstetric Shared Care is for healthy women enjoying a normal pregnancy.

Why choose GP Obstetric Shared Care?

You can see the same doctor (your GP) for most of your antenatal visits.

You know the doctor and they know your medical history.

Appointment times with your GP are often more convenient than at a hospital.

GPs often have shorter waiting times than hospital clinics and are often closer to home.

Care once you return home after delivery is provided by the same doctor (your GP).

Your GP offers comprehensive continuity of care for your whole family as they grow.

In rural or remote areas, seeing your GP can be easier than getting to the public hospital. Specific arrangements need to be discussed with your GP at the beginning of your pregnancy.

How do I get more information?

You can ask your GP or clinic staff whether your GP or another GP at the practice is accredited.

You can ask the Shared Care Midwife Coordinators to help you find an accredited GP.

What do I need to do?

There are 3 simple steps to joining the Obstetric Shared Care Program:

1

Visit your GP as early in your pregnancy as possible to ensure your pregnancy starts well.

2

Call the SA Pregnancy Infoline number **1300 368 820** Monday-Friday 9-5pm to obtain a reference number when looking to book into a public hospital. **This does not apply in the rural areas.**

3

Call the public hospital to 'book into' that hospital when you are between 10-16 weeks pregnant (Remember many public hospitals have waiting lists, so book early). Remember to inform the hospital receptionist that you are doing 'shared care'.

