

Medicare ineligible women seeking maternity care

Monash Health is primarily responsible to provide 'public care' for Australian residents.

Our maternity services therefore, prioritise bookings to public women with Medicare.

If you do not have Medicare, (and do not have refugee or asylum seeker status), you are considered a **private patient** within the Victorian **public health system**.

Monash Health does enable a small number of women to give birth as a '**private in public patient**'. This is only when the hospital has capacity, and when the woman is fully insured, or is able to pay the full cost of private care and treatment. This includes international students.

Are there any other options for me?

Yes. If you book to have your baby at a private hospital, such as Jessie McPherson Hospital, and stay in hospital for just a few days, the costs for the specialist obstetrician will be the same **and** the private hospital costs may be less.

Ask your obstetrician to get a quote for the private hospital costs, which may help you decide.

What do I need to do if I want to book into the public hospital, as a private patient?

1. You need to be insured, or able to pay costs, for the specialist obstetrician, hospital accommodation, diagnostic imaging e.g. ultrasound, pathology, theatre fees and pharmaceuticals. For more information **E-mail:** Monash Health Finance Department NonEligMatBookings@monashhealth.org
2. Places are limited. To check if places are available at one of our hospitals you can **E-mail:** Maternity Bookings maternity.bookings@monashhealth.org.
3. You will need to see a **Monash Health accredited specialist obstetrician for your care**. [Click here for a list of accredited specialist obstetricians with private patient admitting rights](#) for each of our hospitals (Casey Hospital, Dandenong Hospital, or Monash Medical Centre).
4. **The specialist obstetrician will** request a maternity booking for you, as their **private patient**, at the public hospital where they have admitting rights.

What happens next?

1. Maternity Bookings will notify your doctor **if the hospital is already fully booked**. Your doctor will then discuss with you other options, within the private hospital system.
2. If there is space for your booking for the month you are due, Maternity Bookings will contact you after they receive confirmation from Monash Finance Department that you have adequate private health insurance, or have agreed to pay a security deposit and an acceptable payment plan. Maternity bookings will arrange an outpatient appointment for you with a midwife, who will then **confirm your maternity booking**.

As a private patient

All your ongoing pregnancy care will be in your doctor's private rooms. You will be responsible for fees for your pregnancy care and birth attendance with the **specialist obstetrician** (not Monash Health).

You will be responsible for the payment of all fees due to Monash Health for care and treatment: (See page 2).

What happens if I do not pay?

Monash Health will instigate legal proceedings to recover outstanding payments. Monash Health may also advise the relevant Commonwealth Authorities.

Finance Office:
Monash Medical Centre
246 Clayton Road
Clayton Victoria 3168
Australia

Postal address:
Locked Bag 29
Clayton South Vic 3169
Australia

Tel (03) 9594 2865
Fax (03) 9594 6144

CHARGES FOR OVERSEAS VISITORS & INELIGIBLE PATIENTS

(Effective 1st July 2014)

An "ineligible patient" is a person who is not covered by Medicare or does not have a Medicare Card.

Please note: These charges are for accommodation only and do not include fees for the following services:- pathology, x-rays, procedures (operations), prosthetic items, pharmaceutical items or private doctors' consultations. You will be billed for these separately as per the Medicare Benefits Schedule and are expected to claim the cost of these services with your insurance company.

EMERGENCY, OUTPATIENTS & STANDARD WARD RATES

Emergency Attendance	\$ 550.00	per visit
Emergency Admission/Short Stay	\$1,000.00	per day
Day Only – Bed Rate	\$1,000.00	per day
Overnight – Bed Rate	\$1,500.00	per day
Special Care Nursery	\$2,200.00	per day
Outpatient Clinic	\$ 350.00	per visit
Birth Suite / Labour Ward Fee (based on item 16519)	\$ 693.95	
Theatre Fee (Caesarean based on item 16522)	\$1,629.35	
Extended Postnatal Care (EPC)	\$ 250.00	per visit
Monash Children at Home - Nursing Services	\$ 100.00	per visit
Hospital in the home service	\$ 250.00	per visit

CORONARY CARE UNIT

Overnight - Bed Rate	\$ 2,800.00	per day
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INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Overnight – Bed rate	\$ 4,300.00	per day
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit- Overnight bed rate	\$ 3,600.00	per day

Uninsured Maternity – Episodic Fees

Normal Birth	\$ 7,500.00	(episode)
Caesarean	\$10,000.00	(episode)

(Payable prior to Admission)

NOTE: Self-Funded or Overseas Travel Insured Fees not paid upon Discharge will be referred to our Collection Agent for further action.

EXCEPTIONS:

Overseas Visitors from the following countries are covered by Medicare (Reciprocal Rights Agreement) for treatment that is deemed to be immediately necessary: - United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Finland, Malta, Norway, Italy, Ireland, Belgium, Slovenia and New Zealand. Visitors *will* be covered in a public hospital for Inpatient or Emergency services as long as a passport is sighted by admissions office staff and noted.