

Midwife Care

Information for Pregnant Women

Women's and Children's Program

What is Midwife Care?

Midwife Care is a model of maternity care where women attend the public Antenatal Clinic for their antenatal care. Care is provided by midwives rostered to work in the antenatal clinic. You will see a Doctor for some key visits throughout your pregnancy, but the majority of your care will be provided by a midwife.

Who is able to have Midwife Care?

All women booked to Eastern Health public Antenatal clinic will see a midwife for their 1st appointment. Midwife Care is suitable for healthy women with no complications. If you require more complex care or develop any complications you will be referred to the appropriate senior clinician for further assessment and care.

How do I book into Midwife Care?

When completing the Eastern Health maternity booking form please tick the Midwife Care option. Bookings will be completed after 8 weeks of pregnancy. You will be allocated to a midwife clinic for your first visit.

What can I expect from Midwife Care

Pregnancy –The midwives provide care throughout pregnancy through regular appointments within the hospital. Consultation with and referral to other maternity clinicians is made according to clinical need.

Labour and birth - Care will be provided within the hospital. You will be cared for by a birth suite midwife. Consultation and referral to other maternity clinicians will be according to Eastern Health guidelines.

Postnatal care – The length of your hospital stay is expected to be approximately 48 hours for normal birth. You can choose to be discharged home following the birth of your baby directly from Birth Suite or within the 1st 24 hours. Home visits will be provided by our team of domiciliary midwives. Once you are discharged from Eastern Health your care will then be provided in the community by your Maternal & Child Health Nurse and your GP as required.