

Metro North **GP Alignment Program**

# Maternity Workshop



## CASE STUDIES: First Trimester

**phn**  
BRISBANE NORTH  
An Australian Government Initiative

 **Queensland Government**  
**Metro North Health**

Metro North **GP Alignment Program**

# Maternity Workshop



## CASE STUDY

## JESSICA – FIRST TRIMESTER

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BRISBANE NORTH  
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**Metro North Health**

# CASE STUDY: **JESSICA**

## FIRST TRIMESTER

- **Jessica** – a healthy 24-year old
- LNMP 4 weeks ago & uHCG is positive
- This is her first pregnancy, she has no private health insurance & she wants to know what comes next
- **15 min appointment booked**
- **Outline your approach**

# NHMRC Iodine recommendation

- NHMRC recommends all women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or considering pregnancy, take an iodine supplement of 150 micrograms (µg) each day
- women with pre-existing thyroid conditions should seek advice from medical practitioner prior to taking a supplement
- women who are thyrotoxic, have Graves' disease or multinodular goitre should not take supplemental iodine

# Iodine supplementation

- Iodine and folic acid fortification of bread mandatory since 2009 but not high enough levels for pregnancy – supplementation recommended
- Most pregnancy and breastfeeding multivitamins contain iodine
- Iodised salt recommended for women of childbearing age

# Omega-3

- **If women are low in omega-3, 800 mg DHA and 100 mg EPA per day may reduce their risk of preterm birth**
- **SA Pathology-SAHMRI collaboration assessing the feasibility of identifying women who are low in omega-3 and may benefit from omega-3 supplementation to reduce their risk of early birth**
- **Testing available in Queensland but no MBS rebate and result may be difficult to interpret**



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<b>Patient education resources</b>	
<a href="#">Diabetes in Pregnancy - Dietitian form</a>	Queensland Health

# Specific STI testing - chlamydia

- National guidelines recommend routinely offering chlamydia testing at the first antenatal visit to pregnant women younger than 30 years
- Urine sample or self-collected vaginal sample

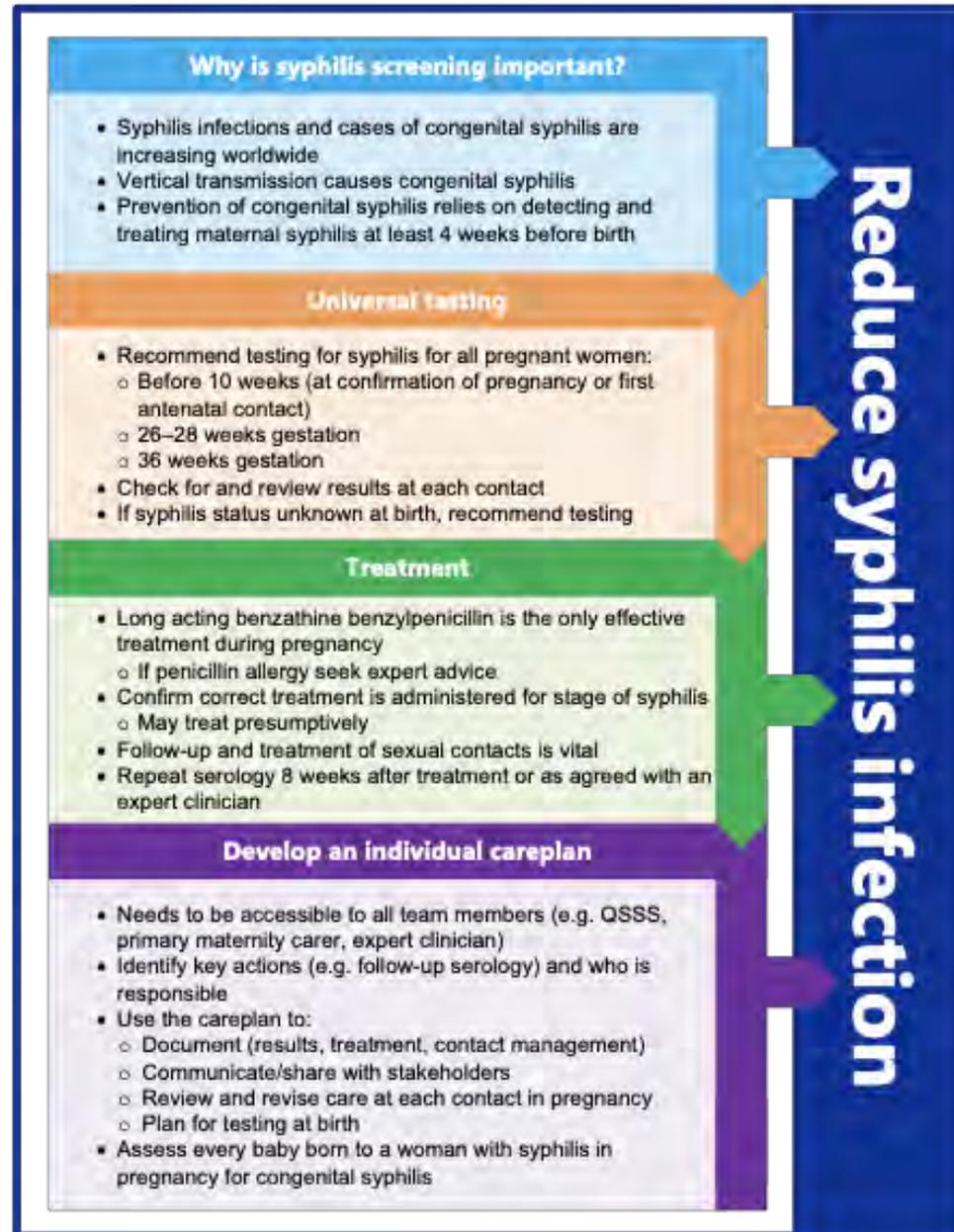
# Specific STI testing - syphilis

- **Queensland guidelines recommend testing all women**
  - **Before 10 weeks (at confirmation of pregnancy or at first antenatal visit)**
  - **At 26–28 weeks gestation**
  - **At 36 weeks gestation**
- **If lesions/chancres**
  - **Dry swab syphilis PCR and serology**
- **Opportunistically repeat serology**
  - **If indicated following identification of risk**
  - **Upon request**

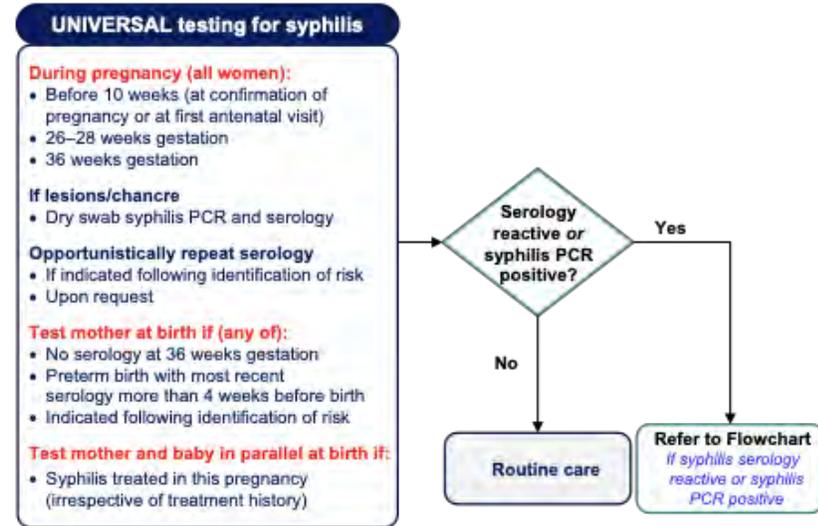
# Specific STI testing - syphilis

- **Test mother at birth if any of**
  - **No serology at 36 weeks gestation**
  - **Preterm birth with most recent serology more than 4 weeks before birth**
  - **Indicated following identification of risk**
  
- **Test mother and baby in parallel at birth if**
  - **Syphilis treated in this pregnancy (irrespective of treatment history)**

Flowchart: Syphilis and pregnancy approach to care



**Flowchart: Antenatal assessment for syphilis**



**Assess all pregnant women for risk of syphilis infection**

**At each contact during pregnancy**

- Check syphilis serology results
  - Offered as per recommendations?
  - Results reviewed and actioned?
- Actively consider risk of syphilis infection
  - Normalise discussions (i.e. discuss STI with everyone)
  - Offer opportunistic testing if indicated
- Consider discussion about:
  - Importance for own and baby's health
  - Prevention (safe sex practices)
  - Partner testing
  - Testing at birth
  - Culturally appropriate care

**Increased risk of syphilis**

- High risk sexual activity\*
- History of STI in last 12 months
- Complex social circumstances— may include (but not limited to):
  - Limited healthcare engagement
  - Adolescent pregnancy
  - Drug or alcohol use impacting health
  - Domestic and family violence
  - Financial hardship (e.g. poverty, homelessness, coercion)
  - Discrimination/intergenerational trauma
  - Incarceration (of woman or sexual partner)
  - Concern for mental health

\*High risk sexual activity: Oral, anal or vaginal intercourse without a condom or other barrier method with new, multiple or anonymous people or with a sexual partner who has other concurrent sexual contacts

PCR: polymerase chain reaction, STI: sexually transmissible infection

## Antenatal Sexual health Kit (ASK) - Self-paced

True's Clinical Education Unit has recommenced ASK education sessions. Join a live webinar by registering to a session below, or email [ask@true.org.au](mailto:ask@true.org.au) if you would like an education session for your workplace. Otherwise individually register for the ASK package and complete the self-directed online webinar, modules and podcasts via the orange 'Register now' icon.

Register Now



### Cost

Fully funded, free to access



### Delivery method

The online ASK course is multifaceted and consists of:

- A 30-minute presentation
- Online learning modules
- Podcast series of 4
- Online resource hub
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



### Who should register?

Clinicians who provide antenatal care. This may include but is not limited to GPs, GP registrars, nurse practitioners, general practice nurses, registered nurses, registered midwives, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners.

# dTpa recommendations for adult household contacts and carers

- **Adult household contacts and carers of infants <6 months of age are recommended to receive dTpa vaccine at least 2 weeks before they have close contact with the infant if their last dose was more than 10 years ago**

# Influenza

- **pregnant women are recommended to receive influenza vaccine each pregnancy**
- **can be given during any stage of pregnancy**
- **can be given in breast feeding**

# COVID-19

- **Unvaccinated pregnant women are recommended to receive a primary course of COVID-19 vaccine**
- **Vaccinated pregnant women may consider a further dose during pregnancy based on an individual risk-benefit assessment**
- **Women who are breastfeeding can receive COVID-19 vaccine at any time**

# RSV vaccination for pregnant women

- A single dose of RSV vaccine Abrysvo is recommended for pregnant women at 28–36 weeks gestation - funded through the NIP
- Reduces risk of severe RSV in infants < 6 mo. by about 70% as the result of passive protection by transplacental transfer of antibodies
- Can be given at the same time as, or separate to, dTpa, influenza and COVID-19 vaccines

# RSV for infants < 8 months

**Nirsevimab (long-acting RSV-specific monoclonal antibody) recommended for all infants where**

- **Abrysvo was not administered during pregnancy or**
- **Infant was delivered within 14 days of Abrysvo administration or**
- **where Abrysvo immunisation status is unknown or**
- **the infant has a condition associated with increased risk of severe RSV disease or**
- **the infant may have suboptimal RSV antibodies**

# Pregnancy Health Record

Immunisation			
All vaccinations are required to be reported to the Australian Immunisation Register.		Complete signature log on page a1.	
<b>Rh D immunoglobulin</b> (Rh D negative women only)  Blood group:	<input type="checkbox"/> 28 weeks If no, reason: .....	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
	Initials:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 34–36 weeks If no, reason: .....	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
	Initials:		
<b>dTpa (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) vaccine</b> (recommended 20–32 weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Declined	Gestation: ..... weeks	Initials:
	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:	
<b>COVID-19 vaccination</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Up-to-date	Date last given: ..... / ..... / .....	Initials:
<b>Influenza vaccine</b> (recommended at any gestation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Gestation: ..... weeks	Initials:
	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:	
<b>Other</b>	Specify:	Gestation: ..... weeks	Initials:
	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:	

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## CASE STUDY

## NICOLE – FIRST TRIMESTER

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**Metro North Health**

# CASE STUDY: NICOLE

## FIRST TRIMESTER

- **Nicole** – a healthy 39-year-old has a positive home pregnancy test
- Nicole is unsure when she fell pregnant as her periods are irregular and her LNMP was 7 weeks ago
- Her first child, now 20 years old was born at term weighing 4500g
- Her pre-pregnancy weight is 108kg height, 165cm, BMI 40
- Nicole has been taking Folic Acid 0.5 mg daily and wants to know what to do next
- She has a positive family history of VTE
  
- **30 min appointment booked**
- **Outline your approach**

# Women >35 y.o.

- **Risks include:**

- **GDM**
- **Preeclampsia**
- **VTE**
- **Miscarriage**
- **Multiple pregnancy**
- **Chromosomal abnormality**
- **Preterm birth**
- **Low birth weight**
- **Caesarean birth**

## WOMEN'S IMAGING REQUEST



Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital  
Level 3, Ned Hanlon Building, Herston 4029  
Phone: 3646 2606 Fax: (07) 3646 5379

Metro North Hospital and Health Service

[Print Form](#)

Patient information sheets available at [www.qheps.health.qld.gov.au/consent](http://www.qheps.health.qld.gov.au/consent)

UR:  Female  Male  Indeterminate

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Names: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Nos: \_\_\_\_\_

Inpatient  Outpatient  Bulk Bill

Ward: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Routine  Urgent

Within \_\_\_\_\_ weeks (Must arrange with Specialist)

Next OPD appt \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINATION REQUESTED

#### Obstetric Ultrasound

- 1st Trimester Viability / Dating Scan
- 11 Wk 4 Day - 13 Wk 6 Day Nuchal Translucency +/- Karyotype
  - First Trimester Serum Screening
  - (GP to arrange this 5 days prior to U/S)  Hosp.  QML  S+N
- 18-20 Wk Morphology Scan
- Growth & Well-Being Scan
- Multiple pregnancy growth scan
- Cervical Length screening  Frequency \_\_\_\_\_

#### Gynaecology

- TV Scan  TV consented  yes  No
- Ultrasound Pelvis
- Saline sonohysterogram (day 10 of cycle)
- Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) day 10 (X-ray)

### RADIOLOGY FINAL CHECK

- Patient identification verified
- Procedure & consent verified
- Correct side & site verified
- Correct patient data & side markers

Sonographer/Radiographer  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### General Ultrasound

- Abdomen  Renal

#### Neonatal Ultrasound

- Cranium  Abdomen
- Renal  Hips

Fetal MRI / complete general imaging blue request form for MRI

### CLINICAL DETAILS

- No clinical concerns. Routine follow-up or this imaging is needed to (tick one and explain)
- Confirm  Exclude  Define  Progress of

G: \_\_\_\_ P: \_\_\_\_ M: \_\_\_\_ E: \_\_\_\_ T: \_\_\_\_

LNMP: \_\_\_\_\_ EDD: \_\_\_\_\_

Current BMI: \_\_\_\_\_

Imaging pathway for BMI>40  
1. Nuchal scan (11w4d-13w6d)  
2. TV scan (14-16w)  
3. Morphology scan (22w)  
4. Growth scan if necessary (28 or 34w)

Radiologist protocol / Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Radiographers comments

Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Room: \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_ Consultant: \_\_\_\_\_  Bulk Bill

Pager/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Provider No: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notice to the patient. For Medicare eligible examinations only. Your referrer has recommended that you use Queensland Health. You may choose another provider but please discuss this with your referrer first. Version No: 3.1 Effective date: 05/2016 Review date: 05/2017

[Print](#) [Reset Form](#)

**Queensland Government**  
Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital  
**MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE (MFM) REFERRAL FOR IMAGING AND CONSULT**

To: **Dr Renuka Sekar MBBS DGO FRANZCOG CMFM**  
Director Maternal Fetal Medicine CAPC

Metro North Health Service District  
Centre for Advanced Prenatal Care  
Level 6, Ned Hanlon Building  
Butterfield Street Herston Qld 4029

Email Referral to: [MNCPL\\_referral@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MNCPL_referral@health.qld.gov.au)  
Fax Referral to: 1300 364 952

**REFERRAL DOCTOR DETAILS**

Request date: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Doctor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Doctor provider number: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Doctor contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

Obstetric Consultant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address / Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Doctor signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**MANDATORY - CLINICAL DETAILS**

EDC: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ by  LMNP  Scan

G: \_\_\_\_ P: \_\_\_\_ M: \_\_\_\_ O: \_\_\_\_

**Current BMI (mandatory):** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please upload images to PACS and attached all previous ultrasound reports and blood results*

Full antenatal blood screen at:  
 QML  S&N  NIPT  CFTs  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Obstetric / Medical history: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A/N Serology: \_\_\_\_\_

Infectious Status (MRSA/VRE): \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

(Affix RBWH patient identification label here or write details below)

RBWH URN: \_\_\_\_\_

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given names: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F  I

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Medicare No: \_\_\_\_\_ Ref No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Ineligible Patient:**  Yes  No

**INCOMPLETE REFERRALS WILL BE DECLINED**

**EXAMINATION REQUIRED (tick below)**

- Nuchal translucency +/- karyotype (11+3 wks - 13+6wks)
- 18 - 20 week morphology ultrasound
- Tertiary ultrasound
- Serial scans as requested (tick reason)
- Multiple pregnancy
- Rh disease / alloimmunisation
- Fetal growth and wellbeing ultrasound
- Cervical length measurement:
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MFM PROCEDURES**

- CVS - 11-14 weeks
- Amniocentesis from 16 weeks
- Fetal echocardiography and consultation
- Discussed with patient

**COUNSELLING**

- Preconception counselling
- Termination of Pregnancy options counselling

**All genetic counselling should be referred to Genetic Health Queensland**

**OFFICE USE ONLY (MFM Staff)**

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Actioned: \_\_\_\_\_

Triaged by: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Accession No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

- Appointment confirmed with patient

**Report:**  Sent with patient  Faxed to referring doctor

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All clinical form creation and amendments must be conducted through Health Information Services  
MRC 6130  
v10.00 - 08/2022 Locally  
Printed  
0020106130

MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE REFERRAL FOR IMAGING AND CONSULT

Women's and Newborn Services, Centre for Advanced Prenatal Care

## Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM)

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

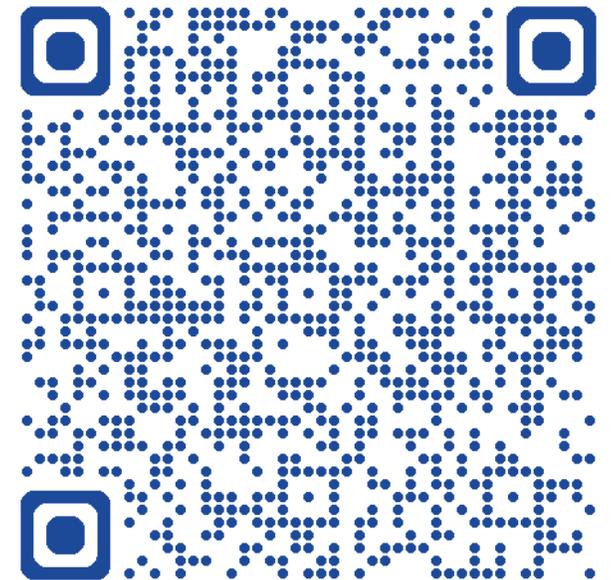
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital



Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM)

Referral Guidelines for Antenatal Ultrasound and  
MFM Consultation

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# Obesity guidelines

Queensland Health

Clinical Excellence Queensland

## Queensland Clinical Guidelines

*Translating evidence into best clinical practice*

### Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guideline

Obesity and pregnancy (including post bariatric surgery)

# Obesity guidelines

Queensland Clinical Guideline: Obesity and pregnancy (including post bariatric surgery)

**Flowchart: Obesity and pregnancy (including post bariatric surgery)**

Principles of care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensitive language to reduce weight stigma</li> <li>Sufficient resources (human and equipment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local criteria for safe care provision</li> <li>Audit care</li> </ul>

BMI classification (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	GWG	Total GWG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underweight &lt; 18.5</li> <li>Normal 18.5–24.9</li> <li>Overweight 25.0–29.9</li> <li>Obese I 30.0–34.9</li> <li>Obese II 35.0–39.9</li> <li>Obese III &gt; 40</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trimester 1 kg                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All women 0.5–2.0</li> </ul> </li> <li>Trimester 2+3 kg/week                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underweight 0.5</li> <li>Normal 0.4</li> <li>Overweight 0.3</li> <li>Obese 0.2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Singleton kg                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Normal 11.5–16</li> <li>Overweight 7–11.5</li> <li>Obese 5–9</li> </ul> </li> <li>Twin/triplet kg                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Normal 17–25</li> <li>Overweight 14–23</li> <li>Obese 11–19</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

\*Variations for Asian background

Pre and inter-conception	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive health assessment</li> <li>Discuss health impacts and options</li> <li>Consider referral to dietitian</li> <li>Aim to normalise weight</li> <li>Higher dose folic acid daily</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personalised approach to weight concern and lifestyle</li> <li>Post BS: micronutrient supplements and monitoring</li> <li>Identify/optimize comorbidities (e.g. diabetes mellitus)</li> </ul>

Antenatal	
<b>Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive history (including past BS)</li> <li>Early antenatal booking-in</li> <li>Measure BMI pre-pregnancy and at 36 weeks</li> <li>Use correctly sized BP cuff</li> <li>If BS: micronutrient supplements/monitoring</li> </ul>	<b>Discuss</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifestyle options, healthy eating and physical activity</li> <li>GWG and consider weight gain chart use</li> <li>Implications for care (e.g. transfer of care)</li> <li>Greater inaccuracy early pregnancy screening</li> </ul>
<b>Refer as required</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Psychosocial wellbeing</li> <li>Mental health</li> </ul>	<b>Consider risk of</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-eclampsia – low dose aspirin</li> <li>VTE and need for thromboprophylaxis</li> </ul>

Elements	BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	25–29.9	30–34.9	35–39.9	> 40	BS
Higher dose folic acid		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Multidisciplinary		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Additional bloods			✓	✓	✓	✓
Early GDM screen			✓	✓	✓	✓ (OGTT)
Additional USS			✓	✓	✓	✓

Referrals	25–29.9	30–34.9	35–39.9	> 40	BS
Dietitian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Obstetrician			Consult	✓	✓
Anaesthetic				✓	✓
Obstetric medicine				✓	✓

Labour and birth	Postpartum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If BMI &gt; 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early assessment of IV access</li> <li>Recommend CFM</li> </ul> </li> <li>If prophylactic antibiotics, consider higher dosage</li> <li>Surveillance for shoulder dystocia/PPH</li> <li>Active third stage management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surveillance for airway compromise</li> <li>Early mobilisation</li> <li>Assess risk of VTE and consider thromboprophylaxis</li> <li>Additional support for breastfeeding</li> <li>Referral for ongoing healthy lifestyle support</li> </ul>

BMI: body mass index, BP: blood pressure, BS: bariatric surgery, CFM: continuous fetal monitoring, GDM: gestational diabetes mellitus, GWG: gestational weight gain, IV intravenous, OGTT: oral glucose tolerance test, PPH: postpartum haemorrhage, USS: ultrasound scan, VTE: venous thromboembolism, > greater than, < less than

# Risks of high pre-pregnancy BMI

## Maternal Risks

- Maternal death or severe morbidity
- Miscarriage
- Thromboembolic disease
- Gestational diabetes mellitus
- Hypertension & pre-eclampsia
- Pre-term birth
- Induction of labour
- Instrumental delivery
- Caesarean section
- Anaesthetic risks
- Wound infection
- Post partum haemorrhage
- Breast feeding challenges
- Depression & anxiety
- Eating disorders

## Fetal/Baby Risks

- Congenital malformations
- Difficulties with fetal surveillance
- Stillbirth
- Macrosomia/LGA
- Shoulder dystocia
- Pre-term birth
- Jaundice, hypoglycaemia
- NICU admission
- Respiratory distress syndrome
- Neonatal and infant death
- Less breastfeeding
- Childhood obesity, metabolic syndrome, generational obesity
- Neurodevelopmental differences

# Resource considerations

- Facility design
- Staff training
- Large BP cuffs, calibrated bariatric scales
- Bariatric beds, theatre trolleys, wheelchairs etc
- USS
- Fetal monitoring
- Intravenous access



Image source: Donna Traves Sonographer, RBWH

# Obesity in pregnancy

- It is recommended that all women are weighed at each visit
- Advise women of their target weight gain based on **pre-pregnancy BMI** (*Refer to page a8 PHR*)
- Refer all women with BMI  $\geq 25$  to a dietician

**Target Weight Gains** (to be completed by health provider)

\*Calculations assume a 0.5–2kg weight gain in the first trimester for single babies.  
Refer to dietician if multiple pregnancies, as different goals required. Dietary and physical activity requirements discussed.  
Refer to Queensland Clinical Guideline: Obesity and pregnancy (including post bariatric surgery) for further information.

Pre-pregnancy BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Singleton pregnancy weight gain		
	1st trimester total weight gain (kg)	2nd and 3rd trimester (kg/week)	Total (kg)
<b>Non-Asian background</b>			
Less than 18.5	0.5–2 kg	0.5	12.5–18
18.5 to 24.9		0.4	11.5–16
25.0 to 29.9		0.3	7–11.5
Greater than or equal to 30.0		0.2	5–9
<b>Asian background</b>			
Less than 18.5	0.5–2 kg	0.5	12.5–18
18.5 to 22.9		0.4	11.5–16
23.0 to 27.5		0.3	7–11.5
Greater than 27.5			7
<b>Twin and triplet pregnancy</b>			
Twin or triplet pregnancy weight gain			
18.5 to 24.9	—		17–25
25.0 to 29.9			14–23
Greater than or equal to 30.0			11–19

# RBWH Maternity Dietitian Referral



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## Antenatal and Maternity

### Conditions

- [Antenatal](#)
- [Gestational Diabetes Mellitus](#)
- [Pre-Conception Care](#)

### Emergency department referrals

All urgent cases must be discussed with the on call Registrar to obtain appropriate prioritisation and treatment. Contact through:

- Caboolture Hospital (07) 5433 8888
- Redcliffe Hospital (07) 3883 7777
- Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (07) 3646 8111

Urgent cases accepted via phone must be accompanied with a written referral and a copy faxed immediately to the Central Patient Intake Unit: 1300 364 952.

- [+ First Trimester](#)
- [+ Post first trimester](#)
- [+ Gestational Diabetes Mellitus](#)

### Specialists list

View the full [specialists list](#).

### Resources

- [Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guidelines](#)
- [Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit Referral & Admission Flowchart \(PDF\)](#)
- [Maternity and gynaecology resources](#)
- [Maternity Referral Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [Metro North Antenatal Shared Care \(PDF\)](#)
- [MFM Guidelines for Antenatal and Ultrasound Referral \(PDF\)](#)
- [MFM Referral for Imaging and Consult \(RBWH\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [RBWH Women's Imaging Request Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [RBWH Maternity Dietitian Referral Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [MFM Guidelines Flow Chart \(PDF\)](#)
- [Specialists list](#)
- [Standardised Fetal Growth Chart Referral Pathway \(PDF\)](#)
- [Perinatal Wellbeing Team Referral \(PDF\)](#)
- [General referral criteria](#)



## Personal Healthy Lifestyle Phone Coaching

Is this program for you?

- Did you start pregnancy above a healthy weight (BMI above 25kgm<sup>2</sup>)? or have you gained weight more quickly than recommended?
- Are you looking for some extra support, motivation and a personalised pregnancy health plan to get you on track?

If you answered **YES**, our program is for **YOU!**

Living Well during Pregnancy is a free healthy lifestyle telephone coaching program, exclusively for Royal mums-to-be, to help you achieve your healthiest pregnancy possible!

[Register or refer now](#)



## Pregnancy Workshop

Pregnant & wondering...

- Which cheese is safe to eat?
- Can I eat fish?
- Should I be taking a multivitamin?
- What heartburn & morning sickness remedies actually work?
- Is it safe to exercise in pregnancy?

We are here to answer all your questions, register for our 2-hour workshop today!

[Register or refer now](#)

### Maternity Outpatients Department

**Location:** Ground floor, Ned Hanlon Building, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

**Phone:** (07) 3646 7182

**Fax:** (07) 3646 5482

**Email:** [LivingWellDuringPregnancy@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:LivingWellDuringPregnancy@health.qld.gov.au)

### Resources

Printable flyer for mums: [Personal telephone health coaching Living Well during Pregnancy \(PDF\)](#)

Printable flyer for mums: [Pregnancy Workshop Nurture Your Bump \(PDF\)](#)

Printable referral form: [RBWH Maternity Dietitian \(PDF\)](#)

## Pregnancy Weight Gain Charts

Select the correct chart based on **pre-pregnancy BMI**:

- [BMI less than 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> \(Healthy weight\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [BMI more than 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> \(Above healthy weight\) \(PDF\)](#)

If pregnant with **twins or triplets**:

- [BMI less than 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> \(Healthy weight\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [BMI more than 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> \(Above healthy weight\) \(PDF\)](#)

## Refer your RBWH patient to see a dietitian

For support with:

- Hyperemesis
- Previous weight loss surgery
- Low pre-pregnancy body weight (BMI < 18.5kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Low gestational weight gain

[Refer your patient > \(PDF\)](#)


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## HEALTHY PREGNANCY HEALTHY BABY

### Healthy pregnancy weight gain training

Healthy pregnancy weight gain is an important part of any healthy pregnancy to optimise pregnancy and future health outcomes for mothers and their offspring. Monitoring weight during pregnancy, coupled with a conversation between a woman and her health professional about progress, healthy eating and physical activity is a recommended part of routine care for all women.

This Healthy Pregnancy Healthy Baby, pregnancy weight gain training is designed to prepare health professionals to engage in respectful conversations about weight and lifestyle and equip them to deliver best practice care consistent with current evidence.

The content has been developed in consultation with a reference group of Queensland health professionals. The suite of online professional development resources is broken down into **7 short modules** with a total completion time of **90 minutes**. Each module will take around 10-15 minutes to complete including a knowledge check. The training is flexible, allowing learners to do one module and come back later to complete others. A certificate is available on completion of the post-training questionnaire.

This training package is suitable for any member of the multidisciplinary team caring for pregnant women including, midwives, obstetricians, physicians, general practitioners, practice nurses, dietitians, physiotherapists, and other allied health practitioners.



### Modules

-  **Introduction**
-  **Module 1 Weight - evidence and practice**
-  **Module 2 Achieving a healthy weight gain**
-  **Module 3 Having the conversation**
-  **Module 4 Pregnancy weight gain charts**
-  **Module 5 Brief intervention advice**
-  **Module 6 Managing deviations**
-  **Module 7 Special considerations**
-  **Assessment**

# First visit to GP

- **Women with a BMI > 30**
  - Include BMI in referral
  - Routine antenatal bloods plus ELFTs, OGTT or HbA1c, urine protein/creatinine ratio, ferritin, B12, folate, vitamin D, Mg
  - 2.5 - 5 mg folic acid daily
  - First trimester OGTT/HbA1c – if negative, repeat OGTT at 24 – 28/40
  - Early dating USS – confirm gestational age
  - Aneuploidy screening – CFTS, NIPT
  - Detailed anomaly scan & growth and well-being scan
  - Assess risk factors for pre-eclampsia, VTE, OSA
  - Advise on healthy gestational weight gain

# Surveillance for co-morbidities

Table 16. Antenatal surveillance

Aspect	Consideration	
<b>GDM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If early screening is normal, repeat at 24–28 weeks gestation</li> <li>• Refer to Queensland Clinical Guideline: <i>Gestational diabetes mellitus</i><sup>105</sup></li> </ul>	
<b>Hypertension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document the appropriately sized blood pressure cuff</li> <li>• If pre-existing hypertension, consider cardiac evaluation (e.g. electrocardiogram), especially if smoking</li> <li>• Refer to Queensland Clinical Guideline: <i>Hypertension and pregnancy</i><sup>114</sup></li> </ul>	
<b>Pre-eclampsia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess for clinical risk factors and consider prophylaxis (e.g. aspirin)</li> <li>• Refer to Queensland Clinical Guideline: <i>Hypertension and pregnancy</i><sup>114</sup></li> </ul>	
<b>Venous thromboembolism (VTE):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI greater than 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> is a risk factor for VTE</li> <li>• Refer to Queensland Clinical Guideline <i>Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis in pregnancy and the puerperium</i><sup>115</sup></li> </ul>	
<b>Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSA in women experiencing obesity (compared to women experiencing obesity without OSA) results in<sup>99</sup>:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Higher rates of medical and surgical complications</li> <li>○ Longer hospital stays</li> <li>○ Higher rates of admission to ICU</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Greater sensitivity to adverse effects of opioids (e.g. respiratory depression)<sup>81</sup></li> <li>• If frequent snoring reported, offer screening<sup>87</sup></li> <li>• The Australian Sleep Association recommend screening by using the STOP Questionnaire                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If the answer is yes to two or more of the following questions, refer to a physician/sleep specialist</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	S	Do you snore loudly (louder than talking or loud enough to be heard through closed doors)?
	T	Do you often feel tired, fatigued or sleepy during daytime?
	O	Has anyone observed you stop breathing during your sleep?
	P	Do you have or are you being treated for high blood pressure?
<b>Depression and anxiety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If concerns are identified, perform additional psychosocial assessment, and/or refer as required<sup>44</sup></li> <li>• Recommend thorough routine and baseline investigations (e.g. to exclude hypothyroidism)</li> </ul>	
<b>Eating disorders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased risk of adverse maternal and neonatal outcomes<sup>116</sup></li> <li>• Maintain awareness of history or symptoms suggestive of an eating disorder<sup>25,100</sup> (e.g. binge or purge eating, laxative overuse)</li> <li>• Refer to perinatal mental health/mental health services as required</li> </ul>	

# Pregnancy weight gain chart for BMI 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> or over

(Affix patient identification label here)

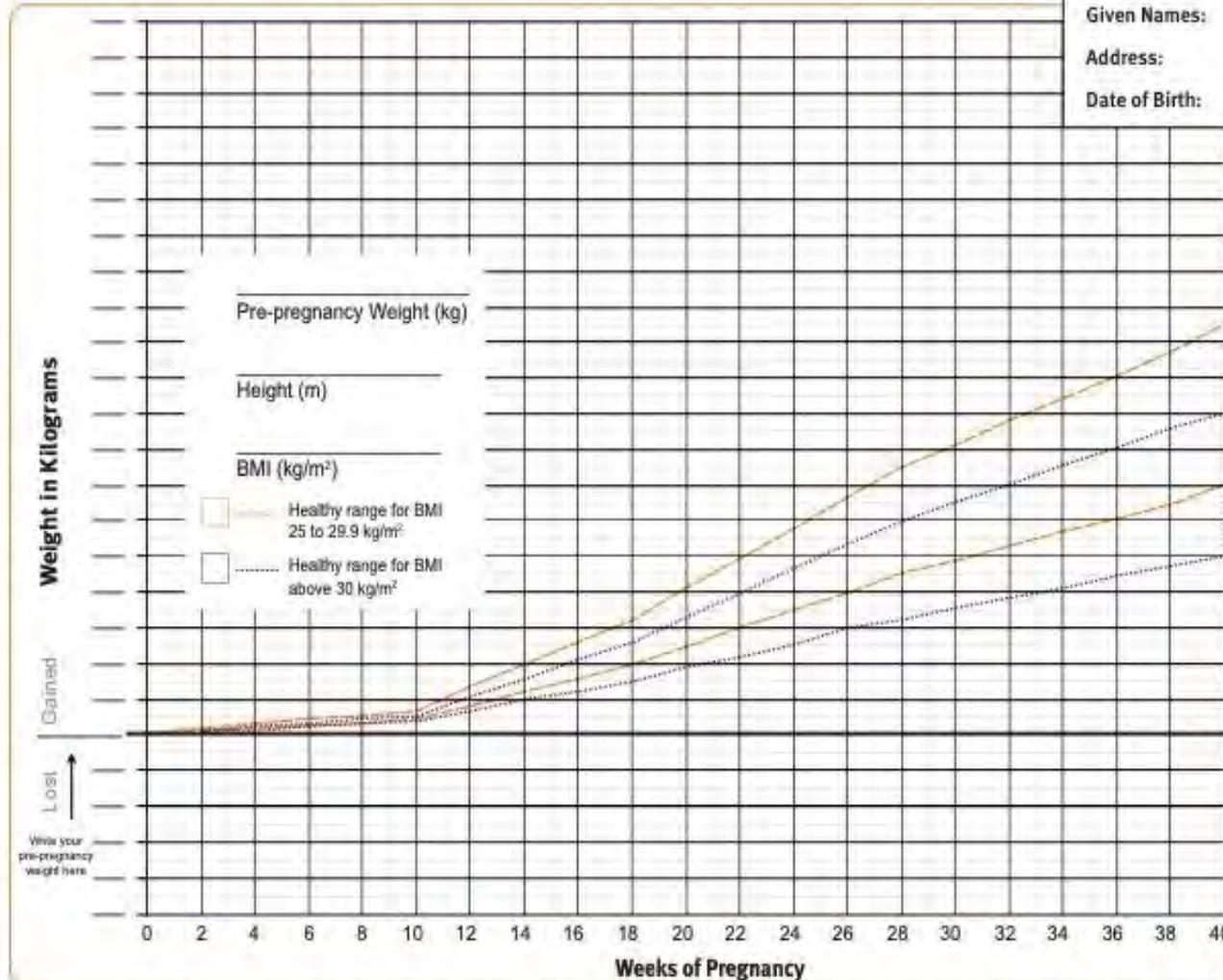
URN: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  M  F  I



### Congratulations on your pregnancy!

Healthy pregnancy weight gain is important for your health and the health of your baby as you can see on the other side of this page. Almost all women can gain a healthy amount by eating well, being active and monitoring their weight. Bring this pregnancy weight gain chart to your antenatal appointments and ask your maternity health care provider to plot your weight and discuss your progress towards your weight gain goals for this pregnancy.

The amount of weight you should gain depends on your weight (and body mass index – BMI) before you became pregnant. Choose the weight gain range that matches your pre-pregnancy BMI (see below to calculate your BMI).

Pre-pregnancy BMI 25 to 29.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>



Pre-pregnancy BMI Above 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>



### How to use this tracker:

- Write down height and weight before pregnancy in the two spaces provided.
- Calculate your pre-pregnancy BMI using the following equation:  $\frac{\text{weight (in kg)}}{\text{height} \times \text{height (in meters)}}$   
Alternatively, you can do so using this online calculator: <http://www.gethealthylife.com.au/health/your-life-and-well-being/well-calculator/>
- Starting from pre-pregnancy weight, add 1kg to each space along the left hand line on the graph.
- Weigh yourself each appointment and every week or two between appointments and place a mark on the line where your weight and weeks gestation cross.
- Connect the dots to track your weight gain throughout pregnancy.

Acknowledgement to Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Nutrition and Dietetics Department, adapted from Institute of Medicine weight gain recommendations for pregnancy.

Version 3 | Effective Dec 2017 | Review Nov 2021

# First visit to GP

- **Consider low dose aspirin 100 - 150mg/day, if obese and additional risk factors for pre-eclampsia**
- **Antenatal thromboprophylaxis if obese and additional risk factors for VTE**
- **Queensland Clinical Guidelines**
  - [Guideline: Venous thromboembolism \(VTE\) in pregnancy and the puerperium](#)
  - [Guideline: Hypertension and pregnancy](#)

# Venous thromboembolism (VTE)

- **Leading cause of direct maternal death in Australia 2006 – 2016**
- **Assess for VTE risk at every antenatal and postnatal visit**
- **Thromboprophylaxis according to risk**

## Queensland Clinical Guidelines

*Translating evidence into best clinical practice*

### Maternity and Neonatal **Clinical Guideline**

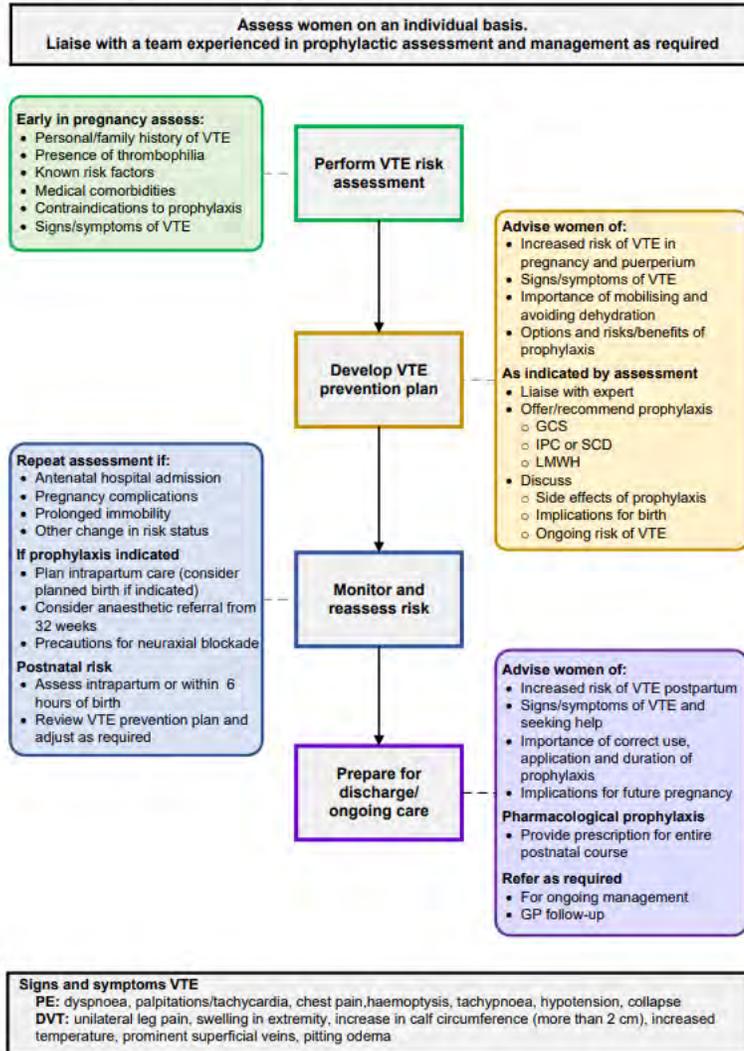
Venous thromboembolism (VTE) prophylaxis in pregnancy and the puerperium



# VTE assessment

Queensland Clinical Guideline: VTE prophylaxis in pregnancy and the puerperium

Flow Chart: VTE assessment for pregnant and postpartum women



DVT: deep vein thrombosis, GCS: graduated compression stockings, GP: general practitioner, IPC: intermittent pneumatic compressions, LMWH: low molecular weight heparin, PE: pulmonary embolism, SCD: sequential compression device, VTE: venous thromboembolism.

Antenatal and postnatal thromboprophylaxis according to risk

High risk	<b>1</b>	<b>ANY ONE OF</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-pregnancy therapeutic anticoagulation (any reason) <input type="checkbox"/> Any previous VTE plus high risk thrombophilia* <input type="checkbox"/> Recurrent unprovoked VTE (2 or more) <input type="checkbox"/> VTE in current pregnancy (seek expert advice)	<b>Therapeutic anticoagulation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue/commence antenatal</li> <li>Continue 6 weeks postpartum</li> </ul> <small>* High prophylactic dose may be appropriate</small>
	<b>2</b>	<b>ANY ONE OF</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Any single previous VTE not provoked by surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Recurrent provoked VTE (2 or more) <input type="checkbox"/> Active autoimmune or inflammatory disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Medical co-morbidity: (e.g. cancer, nephrotic syndrome, heart failure, sickle cell, type 1 diabetes with nephropathy)	<b>LMWH standard prophylaxis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From first trimester</li> <li>Continue 6 weeks postpartum</li> </ul>
	<b>3</b>	<b>IF THROMBOPHILIA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> High or low risk thrombophilia* (no personal history VTE)	<b>Refer to Flowchart:</b> <i>VTE prophylaxis if thrombophilia</i>
	<b>4</b>	<b>ANY ONE OF</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Antenatal hospital admission <input type="checkbox"/> Ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (first trimester only) <input type="checkbox"/> Any surgery (pregnancy or postpartum) <input type="checkbox"/> Severe hyperemesis or dehydration requiring IV fluid	<b>LMWH Standard prophylaxis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While in hospital or until resolves</li> </ul>

All risk	<b>5</b>	<b>SELECT ALL THAT APPLY</b> Risk Score <small>at every assessment (antenatal or postnatal)</small>	<b>Antenatal risk score</b>												
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family history (1st degree relative) of unprovoked or estrogen provoked VTE 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Single VTE provoked by surgery 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Age > 35 years 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Parity ≥ 3 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking (any amount) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Gross varicose veins 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Current BMI 30–39 kg/m <sup>2</sup> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Current BMI ≥ 40 kg/m <sup>2</sup> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> IVF/ART 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple pregnancy 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-eclampsia in current pregnancy 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Immobility 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Current systemic infection 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-existing diabetes 1  <input type="checkbox"/> Caesarean section in labour 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Elective caesarean section 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Prolonged labour > 24 hours 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Operative vaginal birth 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Preterm birth (< 37+0 weeks) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> PPH > 1 L or transfusion 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Stillbirth in current pregnancy 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Caesarean hysterectomy 3	<table border="1"> <tr><td>ALL</td><td>Mobilise, avoid dehydration</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • From 28 weeks</td></tr> <tr><td>≥ 4</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • From time of assessment</td></tr> </table>	ALL	Mobilise, avoid dehydration	3	LMWH standard prophylaxis • From 28 weeks	≥ 4	LMWH standard prophylaxis • From time of assessment							
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		<table border="1"> <tr><td>ALL</td><td>Mobilise early, avoid dehydration</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • Until discharge</td></tr> <tr><td>≥ 3</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • 7 days (or longer if ongoing risk)</td></tr> </table> <p><b>All caesarean sections</b> • Recommend IPC or SCD until next day</p> <p><b>GCS/TED stockings</b> • Consider for postnatal women until fully mobile • Recommend if receiving LMWH</p> <p><b>Enoxaparin: standard prophylaxis (subcut)</b>                      • 50–90 kg 40 mg daily    • 131–170 kg 80 mg daily                      • 91–130 kg 60 mg daily    • &gt; 171 kg 0.5 mg/kg</p>	ALL	Mobilise early, avoid dehydration	2	LMWH standard prophylaxis • Until discharge	≥ 3	LMWH standard prophylaxis • 7 days (or longer if ongoing risk)	<table border="1"> <tr><td>ALL</td><td>Mobilise, avoid dehydration</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • From 28 weeks</td></tr> <tr><td>≥ 4</td><td>LMWH standard prophylaxis • From time of assessment</td></tr> </table>	ALL	Mobilise, avoid dehydration	3	LMWH standard prophylaxis • From 28 weeks	≥ 4	LMWH standard prophylaxis • From time of assessment
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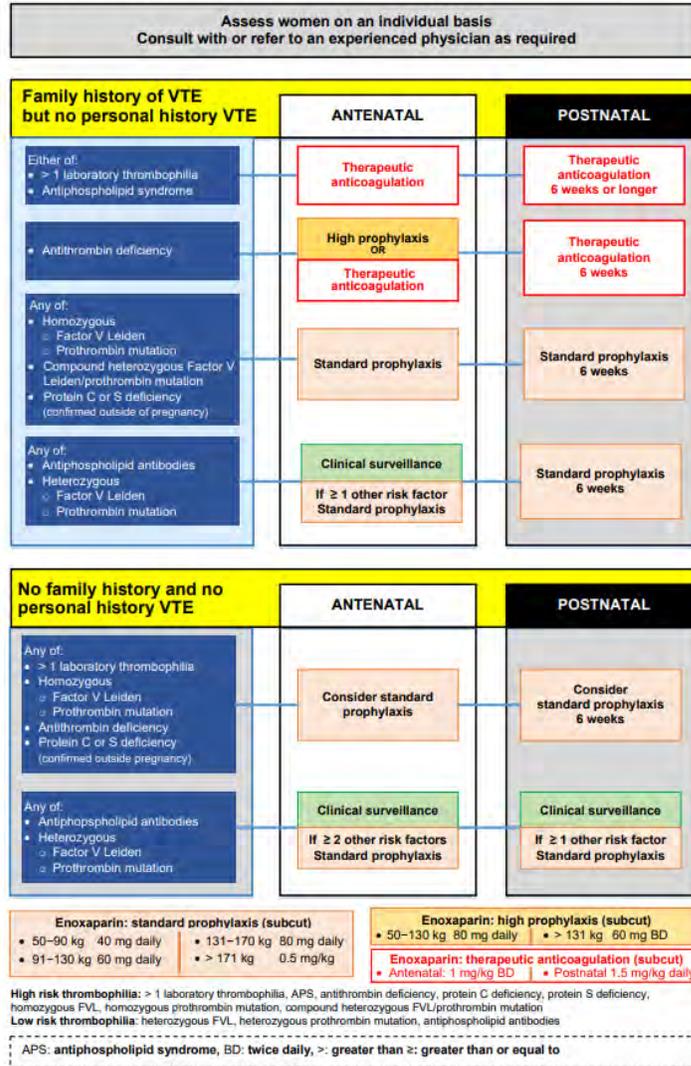
\* High risk thrombophilia: > 1 laboratory thrombophilia, APS, antithrombin deficiency, protein C deficiency, protein S deficiency, homozygous FVL, homozygous prothrombin mutation, compound heterozygous FVL/prothrombin mutation  
 Low risk thrombophilia: heterozygous FVL, heterozygous prothrombin mutation, antiphospholipid antibodies

APS: antiphospholipid syndrome, ART: artificial reproductive technology, BMI: body mass index, FVL: factor V Leiden, GCS: graduated compression stockings, IPC: intermittent pneumatic compressions, IVF: in-vitro fertilisation, LMWH: low molecular weight heparin, PE: pulmonary embolism, PPH: Primary postpartum haemorrhage, SCD: sequential compression device, SLE: systemic lupus erythematosus, TEDS: thromboembolic deterrent stockings VTE: venous thromboembolism, ≥: greater than or equal to, >: greater than

Queensland Clinical Guideline. VTE prophylaxis in pregnancy and the puerperium. Flowchart: Flowchart: F20.9-2-V2-R26

State of Queensland (Queensland Health) 2020  
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-guidelines/guidelines/antenatal-postnatal-thromboprophylaxis>  
 Queensland Clinical Guidelines. Guidelines@health.qld.gov.au

**Thromboprophylaxis if thrombophilia**

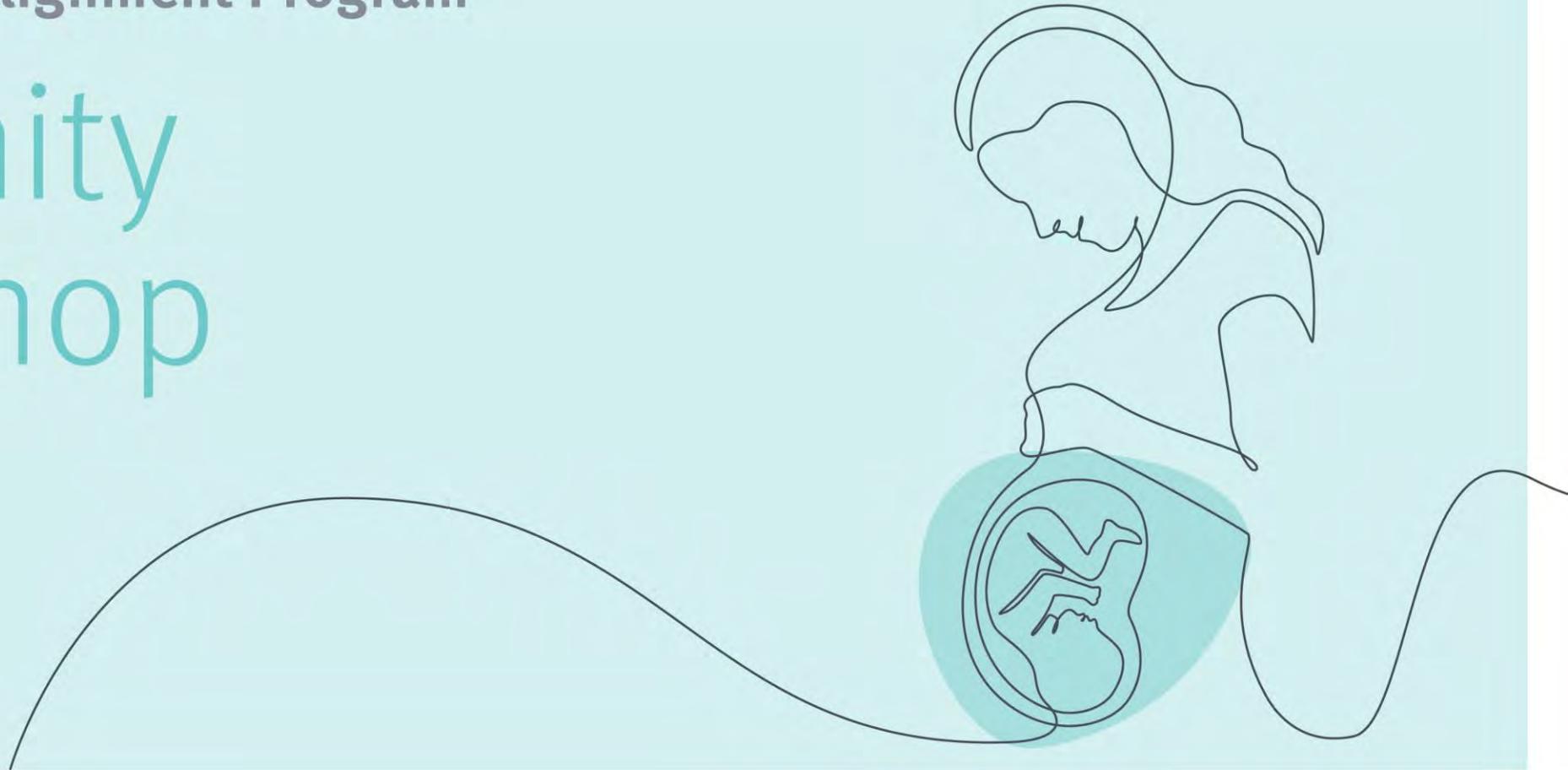


State of Queensland (Queensland Health) 2020  
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg/>  
 Queensland Clinical Guidelines: Guidelines@health.qld.gov.au

Queensland Clinical Guideline. VTE prophylaxis in pregnancy and the puerperium. Flowchart: F20.9-3-V1-R25.

Metro North **GP Alignment Program**

# Maternity Workshop



## CASE STUDY

### KYLIE – FIRST TRIMESTER

**phn**  
BRISBANE NORTH  
An Australian Government Initiative

 **Queensland** Government  
**Metro North Health**

# CASE STUDY: KYLIE

## FIRST TRIMESTER

- **Kylie** – a healthy 32-year-old Aboriginal woman is pleased as her period is overdue and her home pregnancy test is positive
- **She has been stable on 100 mcg thyroxine daily for several years & is taking no other medication**
- **She has a 15 min appointment**
- **Outline your approach**

# Working together to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families

- **Ngarrama Maternity Services**
- **Ngarrama Allied Health**
- **Ngarrama Family Service**
- **Women's Business Gynaecology Shared Pathway**
- **Brisbane North PHN Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing**
- **Birthing in Our Community (BiOC) - Strathpine and Caboolture**



HOME / PROGRAMS FOR OUR COMMUNITY / ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH AND WELLBEING

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing

We're committed to improving the health outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the North Brisbane and Moreton Bay region.



Through working with community and for community, we aim to close the gap in life expectancy, improve the mortality rates for children, and improve access to culturally appropriate and high-quality healthcare.

# Pre-gestational hypothyroidism – management in pregnancy

- **increase total weekly dose by 30% once pregnancy confirmed**
- **monitor TFT every 4 weeks during first trimester and every 6 - 8 weeks thereafter**
- **target TSH 0.5 – 2.5 mIU/L**
- **postpartum - return to pre-pregnancy dose**

# Pre-gestational hyperthyroidism – management in pregnancy

- **Refer to Endocrinology service pre-conception or as early as possible in pregnancy**

# Thyroid Tips

- **Routine TSH in pregnancy is not recommended**
- **Check TSH if**
  - **current or previous treatment for or symptoms of thyroid dysfunction &/or goitre**
  - **known positive antithyroid antibodies**
  - **> 30yo**
  - **BMI > 40**
  - **FHx thyroid disease**
  - **T1 DM, coeliac disease, Addison's disease, pernicious anaemia**
  - **history of miscarriage, infertility or pre-term delivery**
  - **recent use amiodarone, lithium, IV contrast for CT scan**

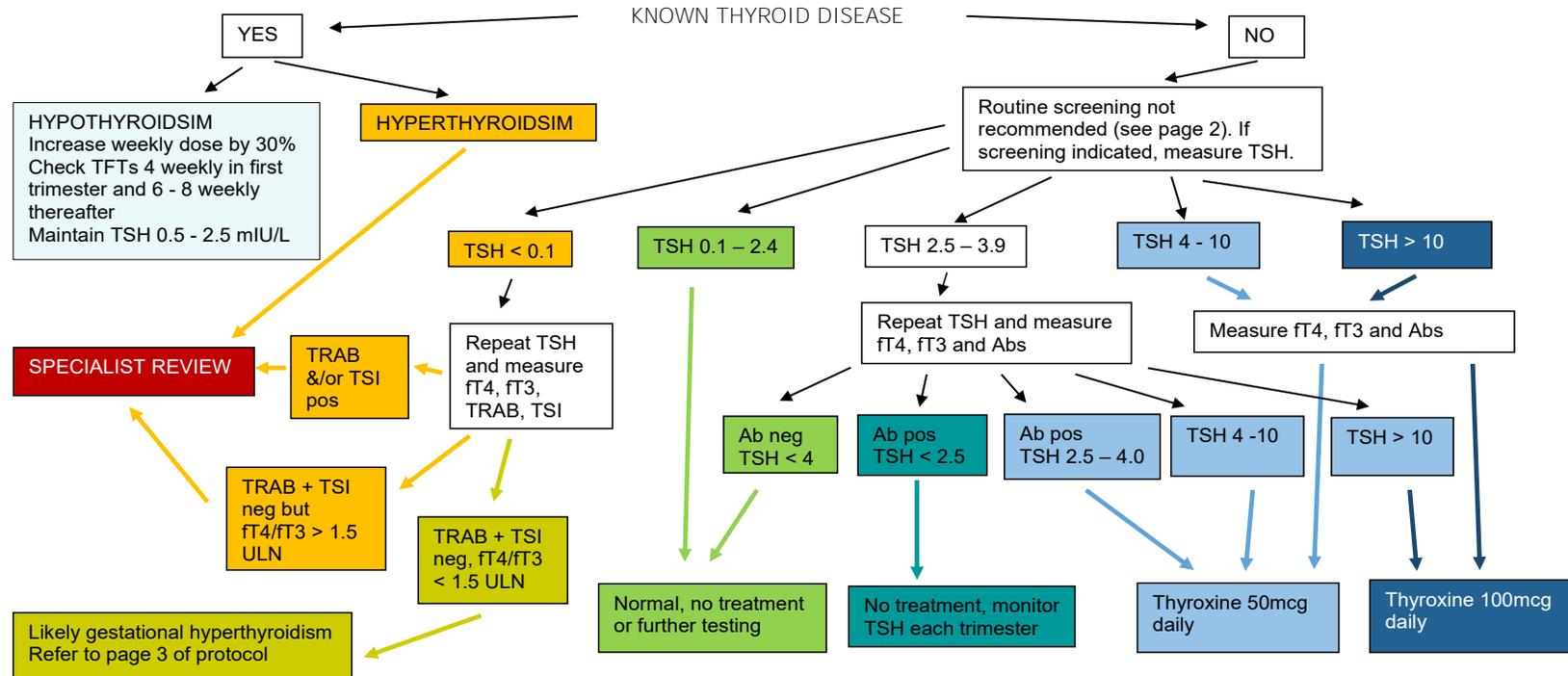
# Subclinical hypothyroidism diagnosed in pregnancy

- **TSH 2.5 - 4.0, repeat TSH, measure fT4, fT3 & anti-thyroid antibody titres**
- **4.0 - 10, measure anti-thyroid antibody titres and commence thyroxine 50mcg daily**
- **If TSH > 10.0, measure anti-thyroid antibody titres and commence thyroxine 100mcg daily**

# Subclinical hyperthyroidism diagnosed in pregnancy

- **Prior to 20 weeks**
  - TSH < 0.1, repeat TSH, measure fT4, fT3, TRAb, &/or TSH receptor stimulating immunoglobulin (TSI)
- **From 20 weeks - term**
  - TSH < 0.4, repeat TSH, measure fT4, fT3, TRAb, &/or TSH receptor stimulating immunoglobulin (TSI)
- **Refer all patients with positive TRAb and/or TSI**

Management of Thyroid Disorders – prior to 13 weeks



Version 3.0 Effective: August 2022 Review: August 2025

Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital  
Butterfield Street  
Herston QLD 4029

Telephone +61 7 3646 8111  
www.health.qld.gov.au



Queensland Government

## Vitamin D

- **Routine Vitamin D testing not recommended in the absence of a specific indication**
- **Evidence on the harms and benefits of vitamin D supplementation in pregnancy remains unclear and guidelines differ**

# Vitamin D

- **Australian Pregnancy Care Guidelines recommend, if Vitamin D testing performed, supplementation only in women with vitamin D <50nmol/L**
- **RANZCOG recommends 400 IU Vitamin D daily for all women as part of a pregnancy multivitamin (RANZCOG)**
  - **Pregnancy multivitamins currently available in Australia contain between 200-1000IU daily**

# Vitamin D deficiency

**25-hydroxyvitamin D, quantification in serum, for the investigation of a patient who:**

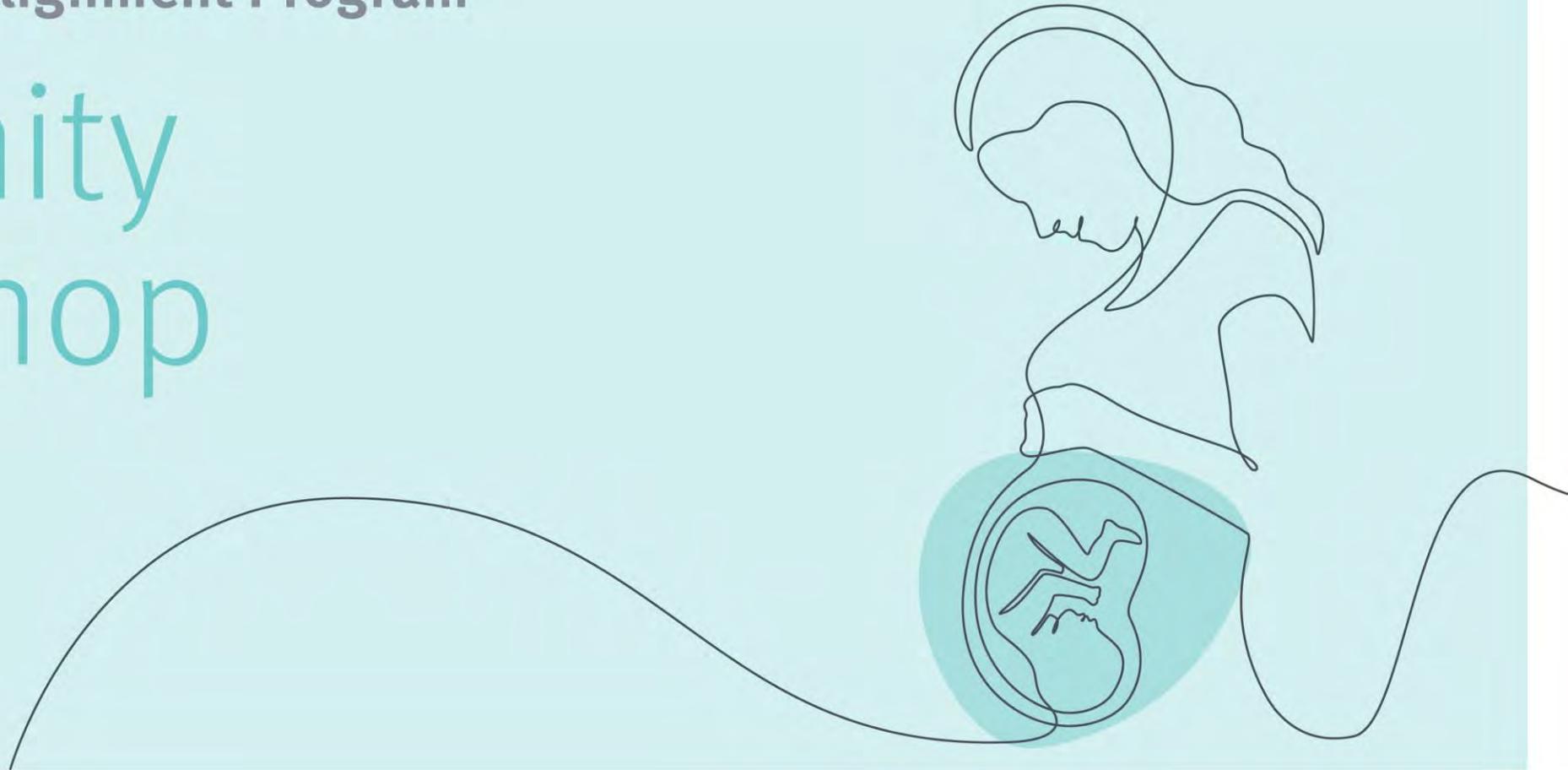
- (a) has signs or symptoms of osteoporosis or osteomalacia; or**
- (b) has increased alkaline phosphatase and otherwise normal liver function tests; or**
- (c) has hyperparathyroidism, hypo- or hypercalcaemia, or hypophosphataemia; or**
- (d) is suffering from malabsorption (for example, because the patient has cystic fibrosis, short bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease or untreated coeliac disease, or has had bariatric surgery); or**
- (e) has deeply pigmented skin, or chronic and severe lack of sun exposure for cultural, medical, occupational or residential reasons; or**
- (f) is taking medication known to decrease 25OH-D levels (for example, anticonvulsants); or**
- (g) has chronic renal failure or is a renal transplant recipient; or**
- (h) is less than 16 years of age and has signs or symptoms of rickets; or**
- (i) is an infant whose mother has established vitamin D deficiency; or**
- (j) is an exclusively breastfed baby and has at least one other risk factor mentioned in a paragraph in this item; or**
- (k) has a sibling who is less than 16 years of age and has vitamin D deficiency**

# Vitamin D deficiency

- **Vitamin D adequacy:  $\geq 50$  nmol/L at the end of winter (level may need to be 10–20 nmol/L higher at the end of summer, to allow for seasonal decrease)**
- **Mild deficiency: 30 - 49 nmol/L - 1000 IU daily**
- **Moderate – severe deficiency:  $< 30$  nmol/L - 3000 – 5000 IU daily for 6 -12 weeks then check vitamin D; continue 1000 – 2000 IU daily maintenance dose**

Metro North **GP Alignment Program**

# Maternity Workshop



## CASE STUDY

### KATE – FIRST TRIMESTER

**phn**  
BRISBANE NORTH  
An Australian Government Initiative

 **Queensland Government**  
**Metro North Health**

# CASE STUDY: KATE

## FIRST TRIMESTER

- **Kate** – a 34 year old G3 P2 has an unplanned pregnancy
- It is 6 weeks since her LNMP and she presents with PV bleeding
- She is a blood donor and upon asking, she informs you that her blood group is A Rh negative
  
- She has a 15 min appointment
- Outline your approach

# First trimester bleed

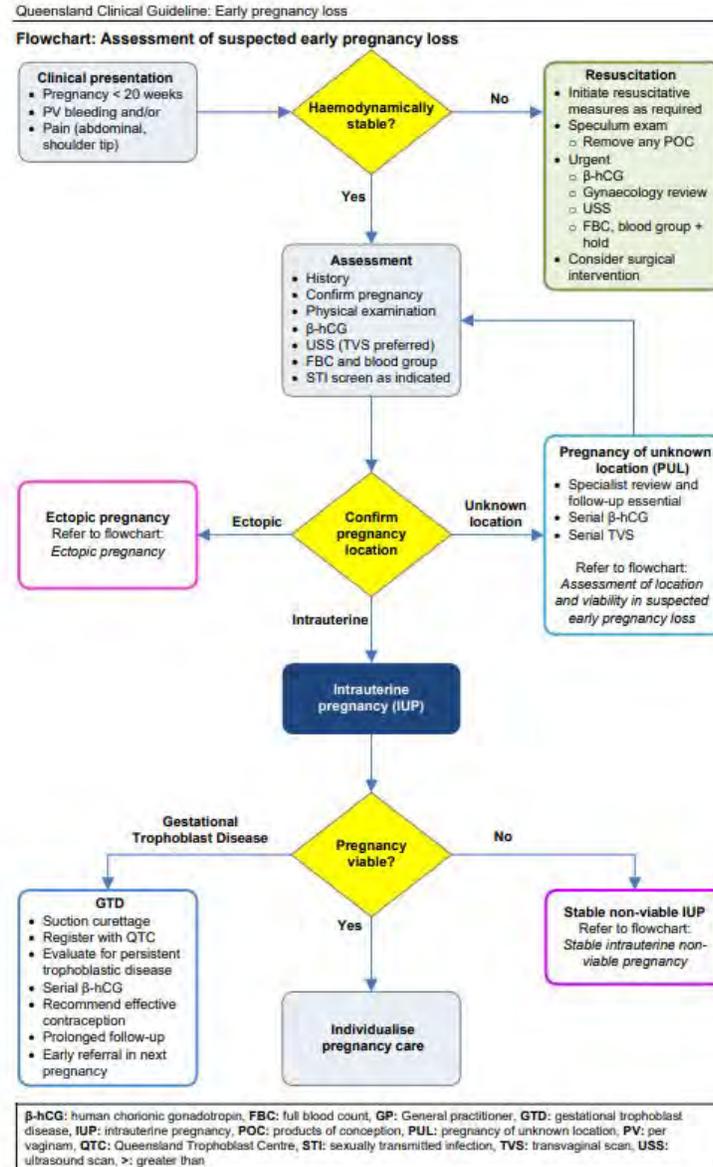
- **Is the woman haemodynamically stable?**
- **What is her blood group?**
- **Where is the fetus?**
- **Is the fetus viable?**

Queensland Clinical Guidelines

Translating evidence into best clinical practice

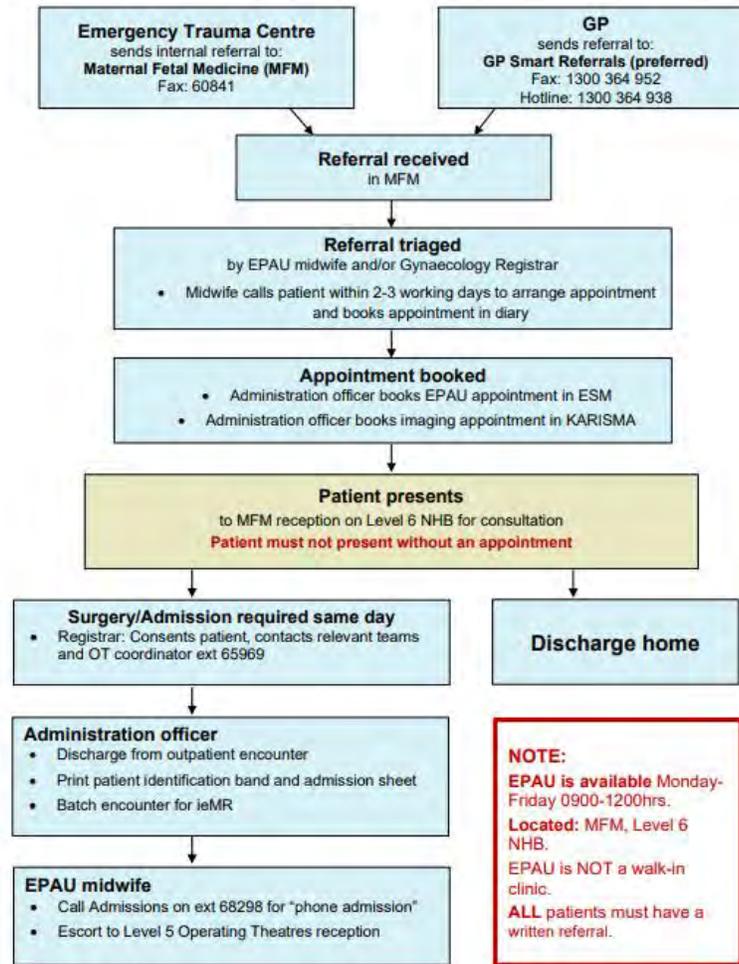
Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guideline

Early pregnancy loss



Flowchart: F22.29-2-V5-R27

Appendix 1 EPAU flow chart for referral and admission



Queensland Clinical Guidelines

Translating evidence into best clinical practice

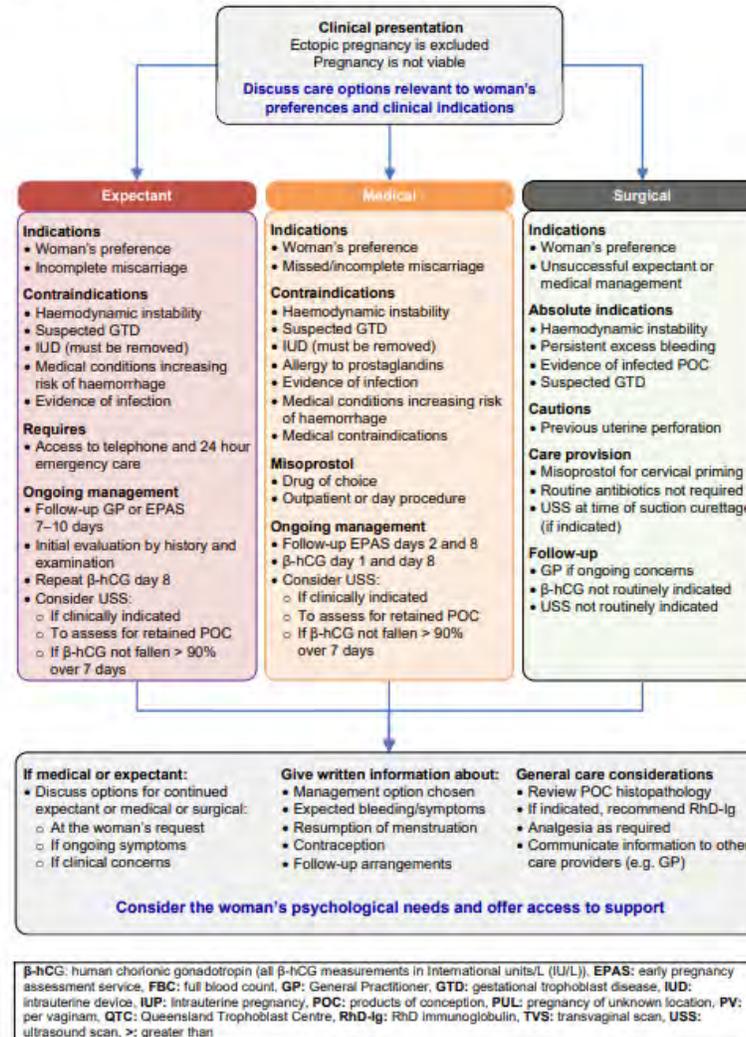
Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guideline

Early pregnancy loss



Queensland Clinical Guideline: Early pregnancy loss

Flowchart: Stable intrauterine non-viable pregnancy



Flowchart: F22.29-1-V5-R27

# Non-viable intrauterine pregnancy loss management

- **No significant differences between expectant, medical and surgical management**
- **Woman's individual preferences and values as well as clinical situation determine choice of management**

# Non-viable intrauterine pregnancy loss management

- **Expectant**

- **Repeat B-hCG day 8**
- **Consider USS if clinically indicated (symptomatic), to assess for retained POC, or if B-hCG not fallen >90% over 7 days**
- **Refer if ongoing heavy bleeding, pain, persistent gestational sac on USS, or if infection suspected**
- **Urine hCG at 3-6 weeks if no POC histopathology, failure to return to normal menstruation by 4-6 weeks, ongoing abnormal bleeding**

# Non-viable intrauterine pregnancy loss management

## •Medical management – refer to EPAU

- Misoprostol for incomplete miscarriage < 13 weeks
- Administered PV, oral or sublingual Day 1 and repeated Day 2 or 3
- Mifepristone & Misoprostol combined may be more effective than misoprostol alone in missed miscarriage
- Bleeding heavier than menses likely
- Pain, diarrhoea, vomiting may occur
- B-hCG Day 1 and day 8
- Consider USS if clinically indicated (symptomatic), to assess for retained POC, or if B-hCG not fallen >90% over 7 days
- Refer if ongoing heavy bleeding, pain, or if infection suspected
- Urine hCG at 3-6 weeks if no POC histopathology, failure to return to normal menstruation by 4-6 weeks, ongoing abnormal bleeding

# Non-viable intrauterine pregnancy loss management

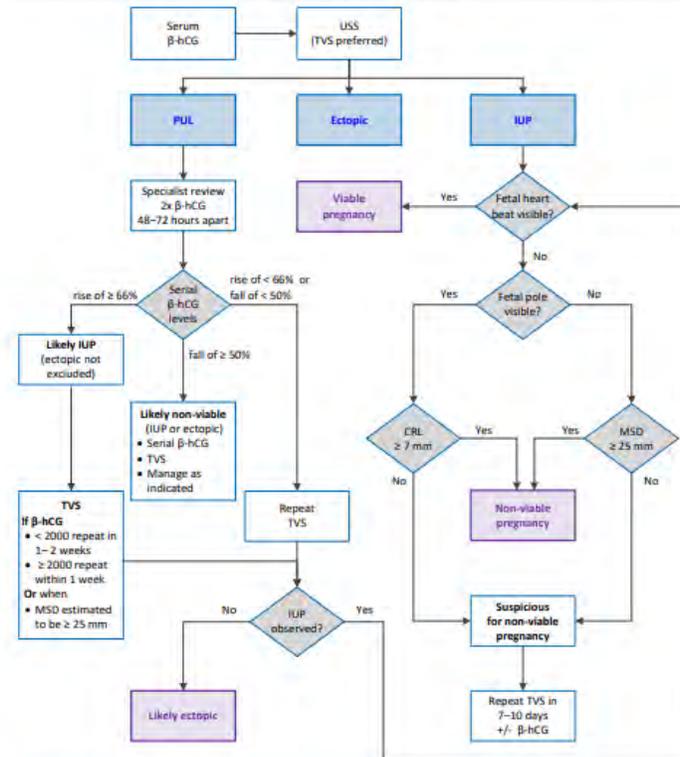
- **Surgical management**
  - **Follow up B-hCG not routinely indicated**
  - **Follow up USS not routinely recommended**
  - **Check histology**
  - **Rh D negative**
    - **12+6 weeks or less 250 IU**
    - **> 13 weeks 625 IU**

# Pregnancy of unknown location (PUL)

- **An Intrauterine pregnancy (IUP) is one where a yolk sac is seen – no yolk sac = a PUL**
- **If there is no yolk sac, especially if the B-hCG is > 800-1000 mIU/mL, be cautious**

**Flowchart: Assessment of location and viability in suspected early pregnancy loss**

Use clinical judgement and consider the woman's individual circumstances when recommending management and the need for specialist referral



**Non viable diagnostic criteria (TVS)**

- MSD  $\geq$  25 mm and no fetus present
- Fetus with CRL  $\geq$  7 mm is visible, but no fetal heart movements demonstrated after observation of  $\geq$  30 seconds
- Absence of embryo with heartbeat  $\geq$  2 weeks after a scan that showed a gestational sac without a yolk sac
- Absence of embryo with heartbeat  $\geq$  11 days after a scan that showed a gestational sac with a yolk sac
- Absence of embryo with heartbeat 7 days or more after USS that showed a fetal pole less than 7 mm with no cardiac activity

**TVS interval**

- Estimate repeat TVS interval based on expected normal gestational sac growth rate of 1 mm/day

**Worked example**

- If MSD = 12 mm, repeat TVS in 13 days or more (12 mm MSD + 13 mm growth over 13 days equals expected MSD of 25 mm)

**Legend:**  $\beta$ -hCG: human chorionic gonadotropin (all  $\beta$ -hCG measurements in International units/L (IU/L)), CRL: crown rump length, IUP: intrauterine pregnancy, MSD: mean sac diameter, PUL: pregnancy of unknown location, TVS: transvaginal scan, USS: ultrasound scan, >: greater than, <: less than,  $\geq$ : greater than or equal to,  $\leq$ : less than or equal to

Flowchart: F22.29-4-V3-R27

**Queensland Clinical Guidelines**

Translating evidence into best clinical practice

Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guideline

Early pregnancy loss



# Pregnancy of unknown location (PUL)

- **Serial B-hCG 48 – 72 hours apart**
- **B-hCG usually doubles every 48hrs between 5-8 weeks gestation in a viable IUP**
- **TVS as clinically indicated**
- **B-hCG > 66 % rise – IUP more likely but ectopic can't be excluded**
- **B-hCG fall of 50% or greater – non-viable pregnancy more likely (IUP or ectopic)**
- **B-hCG < 66% rise or < 50% fall – if no IUP on repeat TVS, suspect ectopic**

# Ectopic pregnancy

- **Triad:**

- Amenorrhea, 6-8 weeks post LNMP
- Abdominal pain/shoulder tip/rectal
- Irregular vaginal bleeding

- **Risk factors include:**

- previous ectopic pregnancy
- sterilisation
- pregnancy associated with emergency contraception/POP/IUDs
- tubal surgery/tubal pathology/infection/PID
- 1/2 women diagnosed with ectopic pregnancy will have no known risk factors

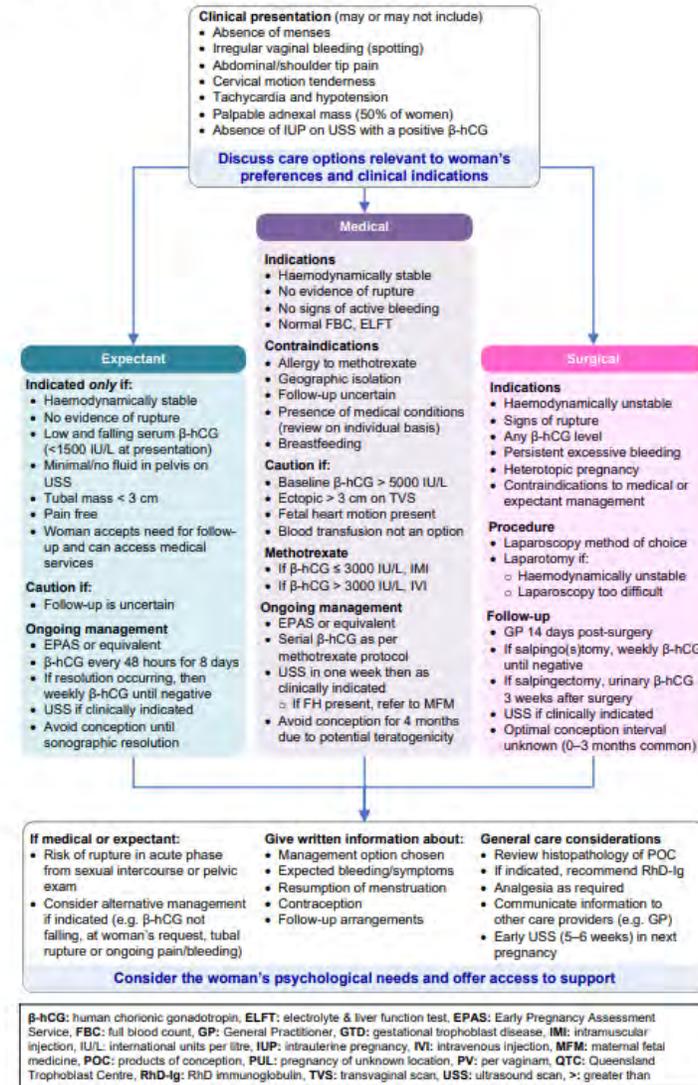
# Ultrasound: Correlation with B-hCG

- IUP can usually be seen on TVS with B-hCG levels above 800 - 1000 mIU/mL
- A threshold of 1500 mIU/mL will detect 98% IUPs
- Pitfall - multiple pregnancy
- Higher thresholds will result in more missed ectopics
- IUP almost always excludes ectopic (consider heterotopic pregnancy if risk factors)

# Appropriate rise in B-hCG

- **B-hCG usually doubles every 48hrs between 5-8 weeks gestation in a viable IUP**
- **If the B-hCG is slowly rising by  $< 50\%$ , it is usually a non-viable IUP or ectopic**
- **Consider multiple or molar pregnancy in rapidly rising levels**
- **Single B-hCG value**
  - **does not differentiate between viable and nonviable pregnancy**
  - **cannot be used to exclude IUP**

**Flowchart: Ectopic pregnancy**



**Queensland Clinical Guidelines**

Translating evidence into best clinical practice

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**Early pregnancy loss**



# Threatened miscarriage and progesterone

- Progesterone supplementation in an unselected population does not reduce the incidence of miscarriage
- Progesterone may improve live birth outcome in women with one or more previous miscarriages and early pregnancy bleeding
- Offer vaginal micronised progesterone 400 mg twice daily to women with an intrauterine pregnancy confirmed by a scan, if they have vaginal bleeding and have previously had a miscarriage
- Continue progesterone until 16 completed weeks of pregnancy

# Termination of Pregnancy (ToP)

- **In Queensland, as of 3 December 2018:**
  - **Women may request ToP up to a gestational limit of 22 weeks**
  - **For women who are more than 22 weeks, a medical practitioner can perform ToP if they consider that, in all the circumstances, ToP should be performed and**
  - **They have consulted with another medical practitioner who also considers that, in all the circumstances, ToP should be performed**

**Queensland Clinical Guidelines**  
Translating evidence into best clinical practice

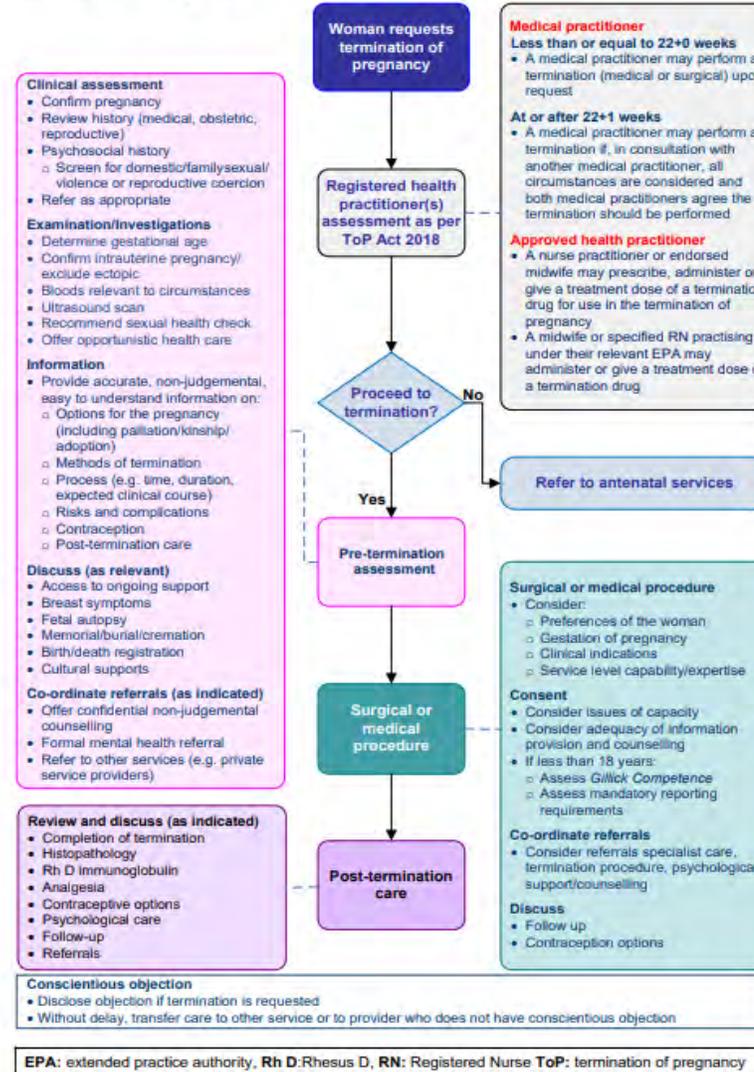
Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guideline

Termination of pregnancy



Queensland Clinical Guideline: Termination of pregnancy

**Flow Chart: Summary of termination of pregnancy**



Flowchart: F24.21-1-V6-R29

- Specific Populations ▾
- Surgical ▾
- Women's Health ▲
- Breastfeeding** ▾
- Contraception ▾
- Gynaecology ▲
- Abnormal Vaginal Bleeding
- Abnormal Vaginal Discharge
- Amenorrhoea
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Cervical Polyps
- Cervical Shock
- Dysmenorrhoea
- Endometrial Cancer Low Risk Follow-up
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Fibroids
- Hysteroscopy
- Menopause** ▾
- Ovarian Cancer Symptoms
- Ovarian Cyst or Pelvic Mass
- Prolapse
- Chronic Pelvic Pain** ▾
- Perineal Tear Follow-up
- Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS)
- Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS)
- Vaginal Pessaries
- Unplanned Pregnancy and Termination ▲
- Termination of Pregnancy (TOP) Follow-up
- Urinary Incontinence in Women



## Unplanned Pregnancy and Termination

See also [Termination of Pregnancy \(TOP\) Follow-up](#).

### Clinical editor's note

From 1 August 2023, restrictions on prescribing MS-2 Step have been lifted. There is no longer a requirement for doctors to undertake additional certification, or for pharmacists to be specifically registered to dispense.

Australian general practitioners can still complete the [online training](#) for upskilling if required. This takes 3 to 4 hours.

Although the TGA changes will also apply to other prescribers (such as Nurse Practitioners) this will require legislative changes in Queensland before they will be able to legally prescribe MS-2 Step.

For more information, see [TGA – Amendments to Restrictions for Prescribing of MS-2 Step](#).

### Red flags

- ▶ **Pregnancy in a minor**
- ▶ **Ectopic pregnancy**

## Background

About unplanned pregnancy and termination ▾

## Assessment

1. If you are not comfortable dealing with requests for TOP (e.g., conscientious objector) you are legally required to:
  - disclose your position to the patient.
  - arrange timely transfer of care to another service or medical practitioner who is not a conscientious objector and who can provide the service.
2. Take a history and check for:
  - [symptoms](#) ▾.
  - [gynaecological and obstetric history](#) ▾.



- There is no longer a requirement for doctors to undertake additional certification, or for pharmacists to be specifically registered to dispense
- Australian general practitioners can still complete the online training



### About this website

This website and its content are intended for viewing and use only by healthcare professionals in Australia.

If you are a consumer and would like information on termination of pregnancy, please contact your healthcare practitioner.

The following website may also provide you with information on family planning, including termination of pregnancy: [msiaustralia.org.au](http://msiaustralia.org.au)

### Login

Email

Password

Remember Me

Log In

[Forgot Password?](#)

### Register

If you are an Australian healthcare professional and would like to become a prescriber or dispenser of MS-2 Step (mifepristone, misoprostol) register online here. Registration is simple. Once registered you will have access to training and resources to support you. All prescribers are strongly encouraged to complete the MS-2 Step Medical Education Program.

Please note that amendments to State and Territory regulations and legislation may be required to enable prescribing of MS-2 Step by healthcare professionals other than medical practitioners.

[- Register -](#)

## Termination of pregnancy

### Emergency department referrals

All urgent cases must be discussed with the on call Registrar to obtain appropriate prioritisation and treatment. Contact through:

- Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (07) 3646 8111
- The Prince Charles Hospital (07) 3139 4000
- Redcliffe Hospital (07) 3883 7777
- Caboolture Hospital (07) 5433 8888

Urgent cases accepted via phone must be accompanied with a written referral and a copy faxed immediately to the Central Patient Intake Unit: 1300 364 952.

Consider providing advice that in an emergency situation, medical and clinical staff cannot conscientiously object to providing care following a failed early medical termination. All Hospital and Health Services will provide services to women who present for emergency care.

If any of the following are present or suspected, refer the patient to the emergency department (via ambulance if necessary) or seek emergent medical advice if in a remote regions.

- Ectopic pregnancy
- Ruptured haemorrhagic ovarian cyst
- Torsion of uterine appendages
- Acute/severe pelvic pain
- Significant or uncontrolled vaginal bleeding
- Severe infection
- Abscess intra pelvis or PID
- Bartholin's abscess / acute painful enlargement of a Bartholin's gland/cyst
- Acute trauma including vulva/vaginal lacerations, haematoma and/or penetrating injuries
- Post-operative complications within 6 weeks including wound infection, wound breakdown, vaginal bleeding/discharge, retained products of conception post-op, abdominal pain
- Urinary retention
- Any molar pregnancy
- Inevitable and/or incomplete miscarriage
- Hyperemesis gravidarum
- Ascites, secondary to known underlying gynaecological oncology

#### Metro North HNS Nurse Navigator - Termination of Pregnancy

Service supporting GPs and women from the point of referral, pre and post termination of pregnancy.

#### Clinical Advice Line (This is for Metro North GPs only and not open to patients)

Hours: Monday - Friday 8.30am - 3.30pm

Ph: 1800 569 099

Email: [metronorthtop@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:metronorthtop@health.qld.gov.au)

[+ Other Gynaecology conditions](#)

### Send referral

Hotline: 1300 364 938

#### Electronic:

[GP Smart Referrals \(preferred\)](#)

[eReferral system templates](#)

Medical Objects ID: MQ40290004P

HealthLink EDI: qldmnhhs

#### Mail:

Metro North Central Patient Intake  
Aspley Community Centre  
776 Zillmere Road  
ASPLEY QLD 4034

### Health pathways

Access to Health Pathways is free for clinicians in Metro North Brisbane.

For login details email:

[healthpathways@brisbanenorthphn.org.au](mailto:healthpathways@brisbanenorthphn.org.au)

Login to Brisbane North Health

Pathways:

[brisbanenorth.healthpathwayscommunity.org](http://brisbanenorth.healthpathwayscommunity.org)

### Locations

[Caboolture Hospital](#)

[Redcliffe Hospital](#)

[Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital](#)

#### 13 HEALTH

13 43 25 84 is a phone line that provides health information, referral

# Metro North ToP Nurse Navigator

- **Via the Clinical Advice Line (GPs only)**
  - **Monday – Friday 08:30 – 16:00**
  - **Phone: 1800 569 099**
  - **Email: [metronorthtop@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:metronorthtop@health.qld.gov.au)**
  - **<https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/refer-your-patient/clinic-advice-line>**

# Metro North ToP Nurse Navigator

## Referrals for RBWH, Redcliffe and Caboolture triaged by MN ToP Nurse Navigator

- **GPSR (preferred)**
  - **mark urgent**
  - *Condition and Specialty* Gynaecology - Termination of pregnancy (Gynaecology) (Adult)
  - *Service/Location* - Termination of Pregnancy - ROYAL BRISBANE & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL (for ToP referrals to RBWH, Redcliffe & Caboolture)
- **eReferral**
  - **mark urgent** and clearly state for ToP
  - Gynaecology RBWH, Redcliffe, Caboolture
- **Include**
  - ultrasound confirming viable intrauterine pregnancy including fetal heart rate
  - pathology including quantitative B-HCG, blood group and Rh status, current CST

# Metro North ToP Nurse Navigator

📄 Referral information

Referral date: 11 Oct 2022

\* Priority: Urgent Routine

\* Provider: QHSR Private

📄 Consents

\* Date patient consented to referral: 11 Oct 2022

\* Patient is willing to have surgery if required?: Yes No Not applicable

\* Condition and Speciality: Gynaecology - Termination of pregnancy (Gynaecology) (Adult) [HealthPathways](#)

\* Referral type: New Referral Continuing care

\* Reason for referral:  New condition requiring specialist consultation  
 Deterioration in condition, recently discharged from outpatients < 12 months  
 Other

Suitable for Telehealth?: Yes No

\* Are you the patient's usual GP?: Yes No

✉ Referral recipient

\* Service/Location: Termination of Pregnancy - ROYAL BRISBANE & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL - 7.4 km

Service/Location information:

Gynaecology	ROYAL BRISBANE & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL	7.4 km
Termination of Pregnancy	ROYAL BRISBANE & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL	7.4 km
Gynaecology	REDCLIFFE HOSPITAL	25.2 km
Gynaecology	CABOOLTURE HOSPITAL	37.2 km
Gynaecology	IPSWICH HOSPITAL	30.2 km
		Out of catchment

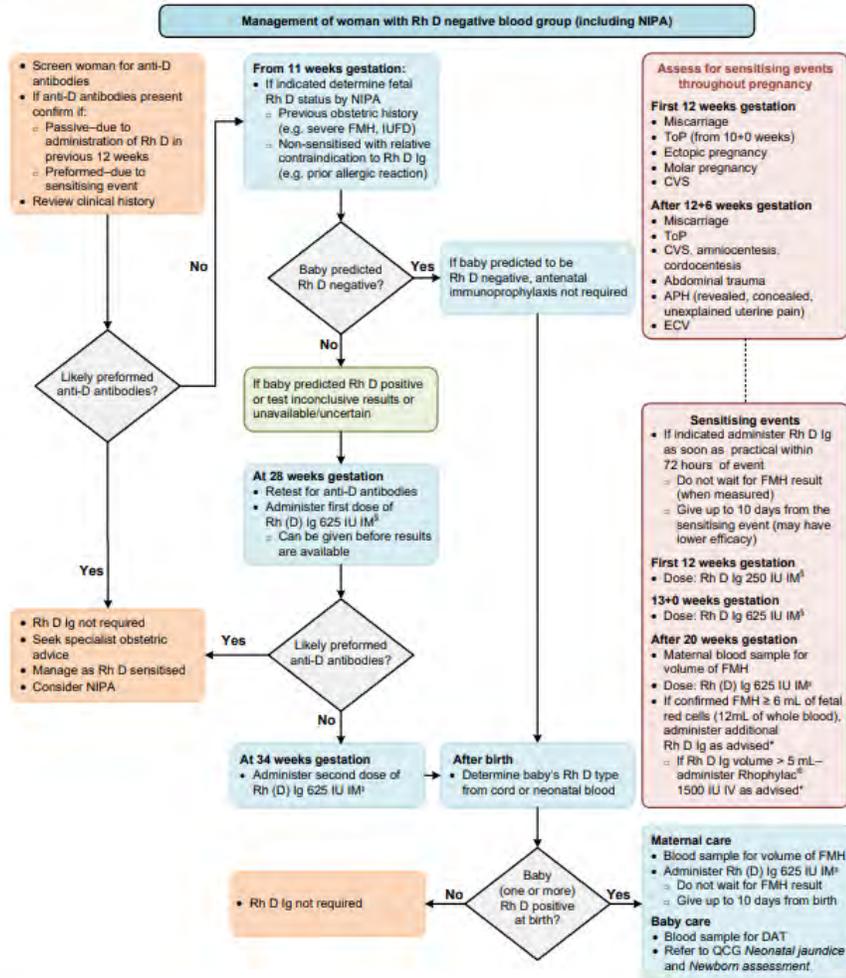
Specialist name: Please select

Organisation details: Please select

# Rh D negative women

- **Pregnant women who are Rh D negative fall into two categories:**
  - those with Anti-D antibodies
  - those without Anti-D antibodies
- **Women with Rh D (or any other) antibodies are not suitable for shared care**

Rh D negative woman and pregnancy (including NIPA)



State of Queensland (Queensland Health) 2024  
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-guidelines/> Queensland Clinical Guidelines: QCG1256 (Health) 2024



\*as advised by laboratory or specialist obstetrician/feto-maternal specialist  
 § draw back on plunger of syringe before injection to ensure the needle is not in a blood vessel and administer by deep IM injection

APH: antepartum haemorrhage; CVS: chorionic villus sampling; ECV: external cephalic version; FMH: feto-maternal haemorrhage;  
 Ig: immunoglobulin IM: intramuscular IV: intravenous; NIPA: non-invasive prenatal analysis Rh D Ig: Rh (D) immunoglobulin-IV;  
 ToP: termination of pregnancy; ≥: greater than or equal to

# Fetal RHD Non-invasive prenatal analysis (NIPA)

- **Funded for women who :**
  - are Rh D alloimmunised
  - have previous obstetric indications e.g., FMH, IUFD
  - are non-sensitised and have a relative contraindication to anti-D e.g., allergy; cultural/religious belief
- **Performed from 12 weeks**

# Fetal RHD Non-invasive prenatal test (NIPT)

- **MBS funded for Rh D negative women who are non-alloimmunised**
- **Gestational age for testing depends on the pathology provider**
  - **Sullivan Nicolaides from 11 weeks**
    - **Results within 4 weeks**
  - **Australian Red Cross Lifeblood from 15 weeks**
    - **Results within 10 working days**
- **False negative rate ~ 0.2%**
- **Patient has the option to continue with universal Anti-D administration irrespective of the result**
- **Requires medical practitioner to order the test**

# Anti-D administration

- **Routine prophylaxis at 28 and 34/40**
  - 625 IU (125µg) IM
- **Sensitising events – within 72 hours**
  - First 12+6 weeks 250 IU (50µg) IM
  - From 13+0 weeks 625 IU (125µg) IM
  - From 20 weeks
    - quantify fetomaternal haemorrhage (FMH)
    - 625 IU (125µg) IM
    - if FMH  $\geq$  6 mL, give additional anti-D as advised by laboratory/Obstetrician/MFM Specialist
- **Postnatal if Rh D positive baby**
  - Mother - quantify fetomaternal haemorrhage (FMH)
  - 625 IU (125µg) IM
  - if FMH  $\geq$  6 mL, give additional anti-D as advised by laboratory/Obstetrician/MFM Specialist
  - Baby – Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT)

# Routine anti-D prophylaxis

Immunisation			
All vaccinations are required to be reported to the Australian Immunisation Register.		Complete signature log on page a1.	
<b>Rh D immunoglobulin</b> (Rh D negative women only) Blood group:	<input type="checkbox"/> 28 weeks If no, reason: .....	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
	<input type="checkbox"/> 34–36 weeks If no, reason: .....	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
<b>dTpa (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) vaccine</b> (recommended 20–32 weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Declined	Gestation: ..... weeks	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....
	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Up-to-date	Date last given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
<b>COVID-19 vaccination</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Gestation: ..... weeks	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....
	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Date last given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:
<b>Influenza vaccine</b> (recommended at any gestation)	Specify:	Gestation: ..... weeks	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....
	Date given: ..... / ..... / .....	Batch number:	Initials:

**Anti-D can be ordered from Red Cross or QML Blood Bank. Please record the routine administration at 28 and 34-36 weeks on page a10 of the Pregnancy Health Record (PHR). 625 IU (125 µg) is recommended for ALL Rh negative women unless they are antibody positive.**

# Anti-D prophylaxis for sensitising events

- **Any situation in which there is a risk of fetomaternal haemorrhage**
  - **Miscarriage**
  - **ToP (mToP after 10/40 or sToP)**
  - **Ectopic pregnancy**
  - **Molar pregnancy**
  - **CVS, amniocentesis, cordocentesis**
  - **External cephalic version**
  - **Abdominal trauma**
  - **Antepartum haemorrhage**

# Anti-D use in miscarriage and ToP

- **Insufficient evidence to support use of Rh D immunoglobulin in bleeding prior to 12+6 weeks gestation in an ongoing pregnancy unless bleeding is repeated, heavy or associated with abdominal pain or significant pelvic trauma**
- **If pregnancy requires curettage or spontaneous miscarriage occurs, 250 IU (50µg) Rh D immunoglobulin should be given**
- **If miscarriage or termination after 13 weeks gestation, 625 IU (125 µg) Rh D immunoglobulin should be offered**

# Anti-D administration

- **Order via QML blood bank**
  - **Complete the online order form**
  - **<https://www.qml.com.au/clinicians/anti-d-immunoglobulin>**
  - **Needs to be ordered in advance**
  - **Enquiries: 07 3146 5122**

# Anti-D administration

## Request for Anti-D Immunoglobulin Injection

Please email completed form to QML Pathology Blood Bank on [qml\\_bribblab@qml.com.au](mailto:qml_bribblab@qml.com.au). For further information, please call QML Pathology Blood Bank on (07) 3146 5122.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of person requesting: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Delivery Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Requesting Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Patient Details

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mini Dose Anti-D 250 IU  
 Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Standard Dose Anti-D 625 IU  
 Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

### Stock

Mini Dose Anti-D 250 IU  
 Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Standard Dose Anti-D 625 IU  
 Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

Email completed form to:  
[QML\\_BriBBLab@qml.com.au](mailto:QML_BriBBLab@qml.com.au)

Please allow up to 3 business days for delivery.



Mini-Dose Anti-D 250 IU



Standard Dose Anti-D 625 IU

### Office use only

Packaged by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time: \_\_\_\_\_

# Anti-D administration

- If you *don't* have access to anti-D, please contact and refer the woman to:
  - Hospital ED for early pregnancy bleeding
  - Maternity Assessment Unit for routine prophylaxis
- If bleeding or this is 28/40 injection, send with copy of recent blood group and antibody result
- Blood group & antibody test not required for 34/40 injection if done at 28/40