

If you encounter complications with your birth and require a caesarean section you will be transferred to the care of the maternity ward. A CMP midwife will visit daily.

3. POST NATALLY

During your hospital stay the maternity ward midwives will care for you until discharge while the CMP midwife will visit daily. If all goes normally, discharge is within 36 hours of giving birth. When you go home the CMP midwife will visit you in your home until Day 5. Thereafter the Maternal and Child Health Nurse will take over your care.

A six-week postnatal wellness check will be arranged with your primary midwife, where provision of a pap test service will be made available.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The continuation of your participation in the CMP relies upon us working together. You may ask for a second opinion at any time. It is your responsibility to arrive on time for appointments and to inform our office should you wish to change appointments. Please do this during office hours. Likewise, we endeavour to be on time for you. It is our policy not to double book and leave sufficient time between appointments. However, there may be times of delay due to the unexpected nature of birth.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

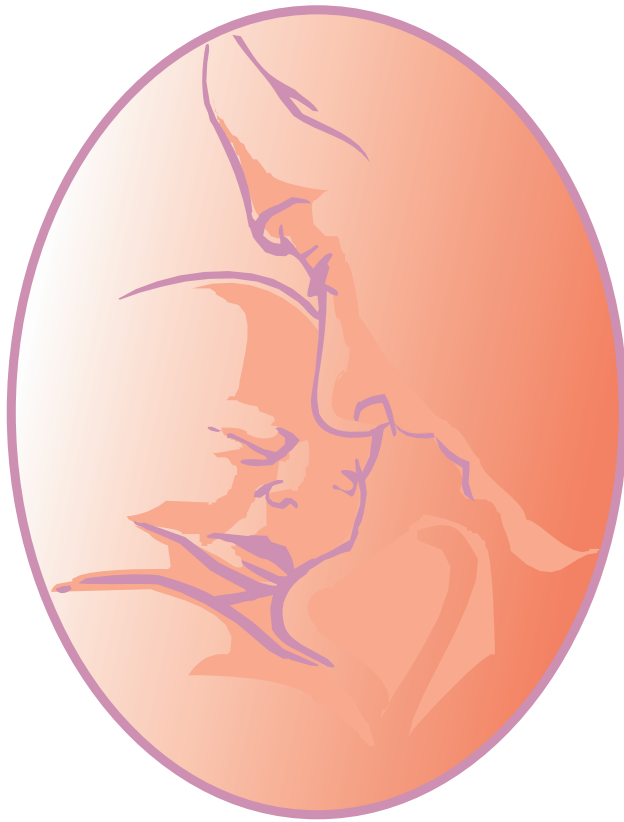
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Incorporating: Wangaratta District Base Hospital, WJ Smith Linen Service, Wangaratta District Nursing Home, Psychiatric Services—In-Patient Kerferd, Radiology



Community



Midwife Program



Welcome to the Community Midwife Program. We are very pleased to offer you our service. Over the course of your pregnancy we will be working in partnership with you to ensure that you are informed of all your choices regarding the pregnancy, birth and postnatal phase.

ABOUT US

The CMP is run by a team of five midwives. Each midwife has extensive education and clinical expertise, progressing through a credentialing process. We each work part time, together forming a seven day, twenty-four hour on call service for all our clients. Once you have joined the CMP you can have access to this on-call service throughout your pregnancy and for up to six weeks after your baby's birth.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

1. ANTENATAL

Our philosophy of care includes sharing as much information as possible. Subsequently we give you your own medical records to carry during the course of your pregnancy. It is imperative that you bring these to every appointment and of course when you are in labour. These notes can be useful when you need to consult your GP on any occasion with a medical problem.

Upon your first visit, you will be allocated a primary or named midwife who will undertake the majority of your care. You will also meet each midwife from CMP at visits throughout your pregnancy. We arrange for a visit with our consultant Obstetrician following the 18-20

week pregnancy ultrasound. If you experience any complications throughout the pregnancy you will see the Obstetrician more frequently. We have outreach clinics in Yarrawonga, Corowa and Myrtleford and can offer home visits if you prefer. Otherwise, appointments will be at our House located at 34 Cusack St, Wangaratta. As part of our educational service we provide a detailed pack of information, library access and childbirth education classes.

2. LABOUR AND BIRTH

Caring for you during the birth process is extremely important to us and we spend a great deal of time planning and discussing this with you and your partner. You need to contact the on-call CMP midwife if you feel labour has begun or if you are uncertain. It is impossible to guarantee that the on-call midwife will be your named primary midwife due to the unpredictability of birth and the need to maintain a 24 hour on-call system. However, it is likely that you have previously met the midwife caring for you.

On rare occasions such as weekends when the CMP midwife has been attending to a birth for in excess of ten hours, or if two CMP clients are in labour at the same time, we need to enlist the help of the maternity ward midwives who are all experienced practitioners. Should this occur, the CMP midwife will personally resume your care as soon as possible.