

Obstetric Ultrasound Interpretation and Preterm Birth Prevention for the GP

October 2023



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☰ Melbourne

Q obstetric



HealthPathways

Melbourne

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- Medical
- Mental Health
- Older Adult's Health
- Medicines Information and Resources
- Public Health
- Specific Populations
- Surgical
- Women's Health
- Breastfeeding
- Contraception and Sterilisation
- Gynaecology
- Obstetrics
- Preconception Assessment
- Antenatal Care
- Diabetes in Pregnancy
- Maternal Postnatal Check
- Pregnancy and Postpartum Mental Health
- Pregnancy Medical Conditions
- Obstetric Referrals
- Termination of Pregnancy (TOP)
- Our Health System

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HEALTHPATHWAYS

Latest News

20 September

health.vic

[Health alerts and advisories](#)

19 September

Listeriosis – advice for people at risk

There are currently a number of multi-state clusters of listeriosis under investigation nationally. People at increased risk of listeriosis should avoid consuming high-risk foods. [Read more...](#)

13 September

60-day dispensing – PBS medicines and current item codes

From 1 September 2023, GPs are able to write scripts for 60 days with 5 repeats for certain PBS medications. For further information, see [60-day prescriptions of PBS medicines](#), [searchable table PBS for 60-day dispensing](#), and [information kit](#).

1 September

Changes to requirements for COVID-19 vaccinators

Administration requirements for COVID-19 vaccines are now the same as other vaccinations. Vaccinators who are not nurse immunisers may only administer vaccines under written order of a medical practitioner. [Read more...](#)

8 August

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk guidelines update

The 2023 Australian Guideline for Assessing and Managing CVD Risk and associated Aus CVD Risk Calculator are now

Pathway Updates

Updated – 28 September

[Coeliac Disease in Adults](#)

Updated – 25 September

[Managing Type 2 Diabetes](#)

Updated – 21 September

[Motor Neurone Disease](#)

Updated – 21 September

[COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

Updated – 20 September

[Asymmetrical Sensorineural Hearing Loss](#)

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RACGP RED BOOK

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MBS ONLINE

NPS MEDICINEWISE

PBS

NHSD

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Pathways are written by GP clinical editors with support from local GPs, hospital-based specialists and other subject matter experts



- **clear and concise, evidence-based medical advice**
- **Reduce variation in care**
- **how to refer to the most appropriate hospital, community health service or allied health provider.**
- **what services are available to my patients**

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Relevant and related pages

Obstetrics

- [Preconception Assessment](#)

Antenatal Care

- [Antenatal Care - First Consult](#)
- [Antenatal - Second and Third Trimester Care](#)
- [Anti-D Prophylaxis in Pregnancy](#)
- [Decreased Fetal Movements](#)
- [Medications in Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)
- [Prenatal Screening and Diagnosis of Fetal Anomalies](#)
- [Use and Interpretation of Pregnancy Ultrasound](#)
- [Pregnancy and Postpartum Mental Health](#)
- [Ultrasound Pregnancy](#)

Obstetric Referrals

- [Pregnancy Medical Conditions](#)
- [Acute Obstetric Referral or Admission \(Same-day\)](#)
- [Non-acute Obstetric Referral \(> 24 hours\)](#)
- [Early Pregnancy Assessment Service \(EPAS\)](#)
- [Pregnancy Booking](#)



Related pathways

Pregnancy Medical Conditions

- [Anaemia in Pregnancy](#)
- [Asthma in Pregnancy](#)
- [Pregnancy Bleeding](#)
 - [Recurrent Pregnancy Loss](#)
- [Hypertension in Pregnancy and Postpartum](#)
- [Nausea and Vomiting in Pregnancy](#)
- [Obesity in Pregnancy and Pre-pregnancy](#)
- [Skin Conditions \(Rash and Itch\) in Pregnancy](#)
- [Thyroid Disease in Pregnancy](#)
- [UTI and Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Pregnancy](#)
- [Varicella and Pregnancy](#)

Diabetes in Pregnancy

- [Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy](#)
- [Pre-pregnancy Planning for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes](#)
- [Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes and Pregnancy](#)

Pregnancy and Postpartum Mental Health

- [Medications for Depression and Anxiety \(Pregnancy and Breastfeeding\)](#)
- [Parent Infant Community Support](#)
- [Perinatal Mental Health Referrals](#)
- [Perinatal Mental Health \(Pregnancy and Postnatal\)](#)



Ultrasound Pregnancy

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Radiation Dosages

Ultrasound

Ultrasound Abdomen

Ultrasound Breast Abscess

Ultrasound Carotid

Ultrasound DVT

Ultrasound Hernia

Ultrasound Hip

Ultrasound Lymph Node

Ultrasound Musculoskeletal

Ultrasound Pelvis / Gynaecology

Ultrasound Pregnancy

Ultrasound Renal Tract

Ultrasound Shoulder

Ultrasound Testicle / Scrotum

Ultrasound Thyroid / Neck

X-ray Chest - Adult

Thyroid Scans

Legal and Ethical

Lifestyle and Preventive Care

Medical

Mental Health

Older Adult's Health

Medicines Information and Resources

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Ultrasound Pregnancy

Background

About ultrasound in pregnancy ▼

Public

1. Check [criteria](#) ▼.
2. Confirm that the patient is aware of the need for referral and is willing for this to take place. If the patient is not competent to consent, refer to the [consent process](#) ▼.
3. Prepare the [required information](#) ▼ and [mark the referral as urgent or routine](#) ▼.
4. Refer to the service.
 - There is limited capacity for routine obstetric ultrasound service at public hospitals.
 - For referral support, contact the relevant [hospital GP Liaison](#).
[Eastern Melbourne](#) ▼
[North Western Melbourne](#) ▼
[Statewide](#) ▼
5. Advise the patient:
 - that providers may charge [fees](#) ▼.
 - to advise of any change in circumstance as this may affect the referral.
 - if transvaginal scan is preferred.

Private

1. Check [criteria](#) ▼.
2. Prepare the [required information](#) ▼.
3. Refer to the service.

Antenatal Care – First Consult

- Child Health
- Investigations
- Legal and Ethical
- Lifestyle and Preventive Care
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Older Adult's Health
- Medicines Information and Resources
- Public Health
- Specific Populations
- Surgical
- Women's Health
- Breastfeeding
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- Gynaecology
- Obstetrics
- Preconception Assessment
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- Antenatal - Second and Third Trimester Care
- Anti-D Prophylaxis in Pregnancy
- Decreased Fetal Movements
- Medications in Pregnancy and Breastfeeding



Antenatal Care - First Consult

See also:

- [Antenatal – Second and Third Trimester Care](#)
- [Pregnancy-related Nausea and Vomiting](#)
- [Prenatal Screening and Diagnosis of Fetal Anomalies](#)
- [Early Pregnancy Bleeding](#)
- [COVID-19 Positive Management](#)

COVID-19 note

The risk of severe disease in pregnant women, as in non-pregnant people, differs according to the variant of the virus. Recent data show that infections with the Delta variant are significantly more likely to result in severe disease than those with the Omicron variant. Vaccination status remains the strongest predictor of disease severity regardless of the viral strain. See [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information Hub](#).

Thromboprophylaxis in pregnancy

For pregnant or postpartum women self-isolating at home with mild COVID-19:

- with additional risk factors for venous thromboembolism (VTE), consider using prophylactic anticoagulants in discussion with the treating obstetric team unless there is a contraindication, such as risk for major bleeding or imminent birth. ¹
- without additional risk factors for VTE, routine pharmacological prophylaxis is not recommended.

For individualised patient guidance, contact the maternity provider or the on-call obstetrics registrar.

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Thank
you.

