



hatch
private maternity

FAQ

We have shared so much about Hatch Private Maternity with you on our website but to assist you further, below is a list of some of the frequently asked questions that we receive. If you still have a question, particularly about your eligibility, private health insurance, transfers into Hatch and our costs, please get in touch, as we will be very happy to help you.

(1) Am I eligible for care from Hatch?

You are eligible for care with Hatch Private Maternity if you hold a valid Medicare card, are privately insured with hospital and obstetric cover, and meet our eligibility criteria. Unfortunately high-risk pregnancies are not eligible for care at Hatch (this includes multiple pregnancies, fetal anomalies, pre-existing complex medical conditions or previous high risk obstetric history). To find out if you are eligible, you can make a free, no-obligation initial appointment with one of our midwives.

(2) Do I need private health insurance to be cared for by Hatch?

Yes, Hatch is a private maternity provider with all births being attended at the Mater Mothers' Private Hospital, so it is a requirement that all women have private* hospital and obstetric cover.

*Please contact us to discuss your options if you are privately insured with Frank Health, Qantas Health, La Trobe Health, Budget Direct, APIA, GU Health or Mildura District Hospital Fund.

(3) Do I need a GP referral to visit Hatch?

We welcome a referral from your GP, however, you do not need a GP referral to see us and have your baby with Hatch. After your initial appointment, our midwives are able to refer to our obstetricians. Rest assured, we will of course liaise with your GP on your pregnancy management and ongoing care.

(4) I am currently receiving pregnancy care through the public system but I have private health insurance, am I able to transfer to Hatch?

Yes, we accept women who are currently being cared for in the public system, provided they have private hospital and obstetric cover, and meet our other eligibility requirements. We accept women or transfers up until 36 weeks' gestation.

(5) Will I see the same midwife and obstetrician for all of my appointments?

We can't promise you will see the same clinician at every appointment however, encourage pre-booked appointments with the same one or two clinicians if availability permits to support continuity of antenatal and postnatal care.

(6) Where will I have my baby with Hatch Private Maternity?

All Hatch births will be attended at the Mater Mothers' Private Hospital in South Brisbane.

(7) I am quite far along in my pregnancy, can I still have my care with Hatch?

Yes, Hatch Private Maternity will happily accept women up until 37 weeks' gestation, provided they meet our eligibility requirements. Please note, all women who see us after 28 weeks' gestation will be required to pay the pregnancy management fee, regardless of how many appointments they attend, or if the management fee has been paid to another doctor or hospital already. If you are paying the management fee again, you are not entitled to the Medicare rebate.

(8) Can I choose to have an elective caesarean with Hatch?

Yes, Hatch Private Maternity supports women's choice of birth. You can discuss your birth preferences from the very first appointment, and can expect education and advice throughout your pregnancy about the potential risks and expectations to ensure you feel you are making an informed decision. Final discussions occur at your 36 week Obstetrician appointment where you will sign a consent form and confirm a date.

(9) Do you offer VBAC (Vaginal Birth After Caesarean)?

Hatch supports VBAC in most situations, though this requires you make an appointment to discuss your individual circumstances. Further information can be found here: <https://ranzcof.edu.au/womens-health/patient-information-resources/vaginal-birth-after-caesarean-section>

(10) Can I have a waterbirth at Hatch?

We acknowledge and support women's labour and birth preferences, however there are some clinical restrictions or limitations on resources to consider. You may choose to labour in warm water (called 'Water Immersion') to help promote and facilitate normal birth, and for most women this is an effective pain relief option as part of your birth plan. There are nine birthing rooms with baths for this purpose. If you are planning on a 'waterbirth' (baby is born under the water in a specifically designed birthing pool), we are happy to discuss this option during your antenatal visits as there are more considerations - meeting Mater eligibility criteria, availability of a birthing room with a birthing pool (there are two rooms for this purpose) and waterbirth credentialed clinicians to care for you during your labour.

(11) Who are the Hatch midwives?

The Hatch midwives are all endorsed midwives who have undertaken additional study and training. This means that they can write referrals, order blood tests and scans, and provide a Medicare rebate at each of your appointments. The team includes Lauren Williams, Claire Howlett, Bela Davis, Rachel Di Re, Renee Eggmohlesse, Rachel Kunde, Karly Simon, Ryndell Levkovich and Candice Cherry.

(12) Who are Hatch's obstetricians?

The Hatch obstetrician team consists of a number of experienced obstetricians and midwives working on a rotating roster. Obstetricians on the team include Dr Robyn Aldridge, Dr David Moore, Dr Paul Conaghan, Dr Tal Jacobson, Dr Matt Smith, Dr Bronwen Byrne, Dr Thomas Chong, Dr Thea Bowler, Dr Brooke O'Brien, Dr Rob Butler, and Dr Rudra Thangeswaran.

A large number of these obstetricians have established private practices with Hatch's sister company Eve Health, a leading provider of gynaecology, obstetrics and fertility care in Brisbane for the last decade. Eve Health launched Hatch Private Maternity in 2016 to enable women who are mindful of their spending to access high quality pregnancy care.

(13) How does Hatch keep its fees so low?

Here at Hatch, we do things a little differently to offer you affordable care. Firstly, we offer care by our team of midwives and obstetricians, and can't promise continuity of care with any one clinician. This allows us to keep our pregnancy management fee to a minimum, which accounts for a large part of the saving. We also keep ancillaries to a minimum: we don't offer subsidised patient parking, out-of-hours appointments, antenatal education or in-house allied health services. We are an inclusive model of care, however it is clinically necessary to exclude high risk pregnancies .

(14) I need an interpreter for my appointment, can this be arranged?

Please advise the Hatch Reception team (Ph: 07 3332 1950) at the time of booking if you require an interpreter and the dialect of your preferred language. Interpreter confirmation is subject to the availability of the Translating and Interpreting Service.

For more information

- ☎ 07 3332 1950
- ✉ hello@hatchmaternity.com.au
- 📍 588 Stanley Street, Woolloongabba QLD 4102 (opposite of Mater)

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