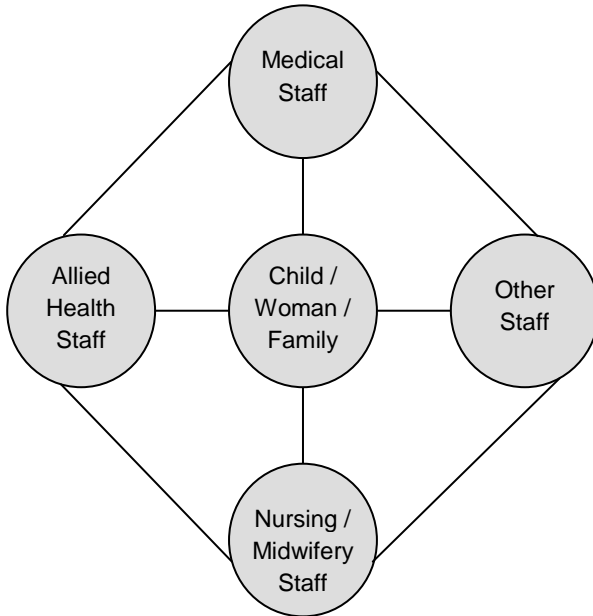
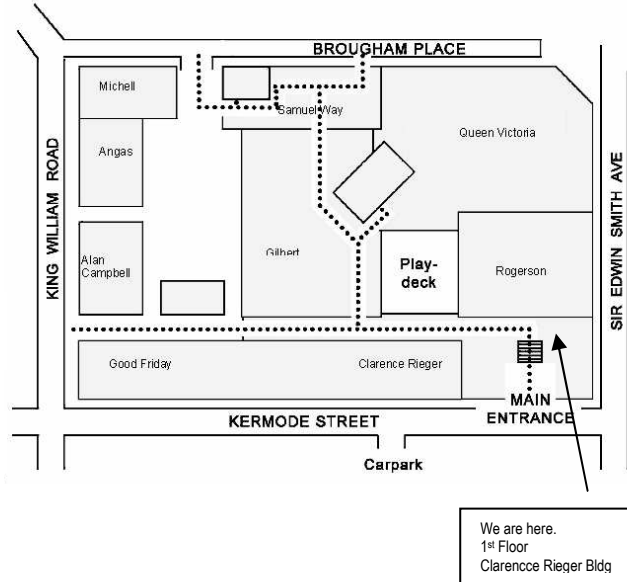


MY HEALTH CARE TEAM

You are an important part of your health care team. Everyone will work together to support you.



If you wish you can write the names and contact details of the people looking after you here:



For further information please contact:
 Community Engagement
 Judy Underdown
 ☎ (08) 8161 6835
 Fax: (08) 8161 6693
 Email: judy.underdown@cywhs.sa.gov.au
 Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Women's and Children's Hospital
 72 King William Road
 North Adelaide
 South Australia 5006
 Phone (08) 8161 7000
 Fax (08) 8161 7459
 Web: <http://www.wch.sa.gov.au>

February 2007

The Women's and Children's Hospital is a smoke-free site.

YOUR HEALTH CARE TEAM

Introducing Your Health Care Team

Many health professionals will work together with you to care for you or your child. Below is a list of some of the people you might meet and what their roles involve.

MEDICAL STAFF

Consultant: The most senior doctor who focuses on a special area of medicine and oversees the other doctors caring for you or your child.

Fellow: A senior doctor who cares for patients and/or conducts research.

Registrar: A senior doctor who may be training in a special area of medicine.

Resident Medical Officer (RMO): A junior doctor who may be training in a special area of medicine.

General Practitioner (GP): Works in the community giving advice and treatment on a range of health issues.

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY STAFF

Nursing/Midwifery Unit Head (NUH/MUH): A registered nurse or midwife who is in charge of the ward or clinic, and also the nursing or midwifery staff. This is the person to speak to about any problems you may have.

Clinical Nurse/Midwife: An experienced registered nurse or midwife who is second in charge to the nursing/midwifery unit head.

Shift Coordinator: A registered nurse who is in charge of the ward for that shift.

Nurse Practitioner: A registered nurse who is an expert in an area of care and independently orders and provides treatment. However they will also work with the other health professionals caring for you or your child when needed.

Designate Nurse: A registered nurse who is working in a special area of care.

Registered Nurse (RN): A university or hospital trained nurse registered with the Nurses Board of SA to practice nursing in South Australia. They provide daily care to patients.

Enrolled Nurse (EN): A TAFE educated nurse is registered with the Nurses Board of SA and provides daily care with guidance from a registered nurse.

Registered Midwife (RM): A hospital or university trained midwife, who is registered with the Nurse Board of SA to practice as a midwife in South Australia, supports, advises and cares for women and their families during the pregnancy, labour and postnatal periods. Some midwives are also nurses.

ALLIED HEALTH STAFF

These are the allied health staff you are most likely to meet. However, you may have others such as psychologists and radiographers involved in the care of you or your child.

Dietitian: Provides education, care and counselling about nutrition if you or your child's diet needs to be looked at or changed due to medical conditions.

Occupational Therapist: Reviews, treats and gives advice to promote normal development and rehabilitation to help with daily activities.

Pharmacist: Educates you and dispenses the medications prescribed for you or your child.

Physiotherapist: Assesses treats and offers rehabilitation for many health problems, and injuries, or after surgery to improve or keep up mobility, strength and fitness.

Social Worker: Helps you to cope with your feelings and the practical effects of pregnancy, birth, illness and being in hospital by offering counselling, information and referrals to other services.

Speech Pathologist: Assesses, detects and works with you or your child on problems with communication, feeding or swallowing.

STUDENTS

The hospital hosts medical, nursing and allied health students who work with trained health professionals. If you would prefer not to have a student care for you or your child, please speak to your Doctor or Nursing/Midwifery Unit Head.

OTHER STAFF

During your stay, you may also meet other staff members such as chaplains, interpreters, Aboriginal liaison officers, volunteers, play coordinators and school teachers.

If you would like to know anything about these roles, or any others mentioned, and how they can help you, please ask your Nursing/Midwifery Unit Head.