

# Information for Medicare Ineligible Patients – Maternity

Acute Care  
SERVICES



As a Medicare ineligible patient, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have health insurance cover or adequate money to cover the cost of your health care. Medicare ineligible patients are required to pay for all the costs of maternity care and the cost of your baby's care.

As a Medicare ineligible patient you are required to pay upfront for our services prior to your attendance. This includes outpatient visits as well inpatient care and accommodation.

A Medicare ineligible person is any visitor to Australia who does not hold a valid Medicare card, or does not fall under one of the two classifications below:

**1. Reciprocal Rights:** The Australian Government has Reciprocal Health Care Agreements with the governments of the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Sweden, The Netherlands, Finland, Belgium, Norway, Slovenia, Malta and Italy. Visitors from Malta & Italy are covered for Medicare for a period of six months from date of arrival in Australia.

**2. Asylum Seekers and Refugees:** Asylum Seekers and Refugees are provided with free medical care (including diagnostic services) in Victorian hospitals. You will need to produce appropriate documents confirming your status from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship or a recognised asylum support agency, such as the Red Cross. If documents are not produced, you will be expected to pay as an uninsured patient.

**Insured Patients:** If you have private health insurance you must check with your fund that you are covered for pregnancy (obstetric) care and that your baby will be covered for neonate care. You should also check with your fund that you are covered for the full cost of your care. The Colac Area Health Private Patients – No Gaps Policy does not relate to ineligible Medicare patients. As such, you will be liable for payment of any shortfall in fees not covered by your private health insurance.

**Uninsured Patients:** If you are a Medicare ineligible patient and are uninsured for pregnancy care, Colac Area Health offer a maternity care package for **\$16,000**.

To access our services you will be required to pay the full package amount of \$16,000 upfront prior to your first maternity care appointment.

Our package includes the following pregnancy related treatment:

- all outpatient visits as well as your inpatient (admitted) care up to 3 days in hospital, theatre, labour-ward fees, prosthesis, consumables, anaesthetic, surgeon & post maternity care required within 30 days.

Services **not** included in our package:

- Medical imaging, pathology, medication provided on discharge, air and road ambulance services.

If these services are required during your care, you will have to pay for them in addition to our package cost.

**You will be required to provide the following information to us:**

- Your passport & visa
- Upfront payment of services
- Contact information during your stay in Australia.
- Overseas residential contact details
- Evidence of immigration status (e.g. immicard) interim Medicare card, and or letter from recognised asylum support agency (e.g. Red Cross)
- Your health insurance policy details (if you have any)

**How to Pay:**

We will provide you with an invoice. Then you can pay by phone by calling reception on (03) 5232 5100 or visit our reception in person.

We accept payment via cash, EFTPOS, and credit card. We accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express