

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

At the moment we find ourselves living with the current health crisis of COVID-19.

The direct implication of COVID-19 in pregnancy appears not to be significantly greater than for that of non-pregnant women. However, current data is very limited.

In view of this uncertainty, and the need to ensure your health is maximised, all pregnancy appointments and services will be modified ahead to **help control the spread of disease and protect those at higher risk**

This will immediately involve the following steps at Mornington Peninsula Obstetrics for Dr Kelly Griffin, Dr Sarah Roberts and Dr Amy Swanson

- NO patients or staff are permitted in the rooms if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in any way
- ALL patients and staff are screened for COVID-19 at MPO via a questionnaire
- NO hand shaking or physical greetings are allowed at MPO
- NO holding of babies or toddlers at MPO by the MPO staff
- ONLY *essential* support people are permitted to attend appointments; wherever possible we appreciate you making arrangements for your children to be cared for elsewhere during your appointments. We are happy to reschedule where necessary to facilitate this.
- ALL surfaces are wiped down regularly during the day
- Keeping consulting room doors and windows OPEN (when appropriate)
- Pregnancy appointments will now be kept to an *absolute* essential only
- **ALL face to face appointments will be kept to 15 minutes or less** (the COVID- 19 data shows this reduces transmission risk)
 - *It saddens us greatly and we recognise that this is not how we usually like to support our families. In view of COVID-19 we must put safety first and will adhere strictly to this.*
- Some pregnancy appointments with your MPO obstetrician and/or MPO midwife, will now be via Telehealth or Telephone consultations. You will be contacted directly prior to your appointment to suggest a Telehealth or Telephone consult where appropriate. Your booked appointment will remain at the same time and your obstetrician will contact you as suggested.
- Pregnancy ultrasounds will now be kept to essential only

Your individual antenatal appointments are being reviewed to minimise your exposure to the practice and to minimise your exposure to us. If we find ourselves in the unfortunate scenario of a positive COVID-19 case at MPO, then we will be closed for a minimum of 14 days.

As per Obstetric guidelines we are creating “teams” so that if one team member is isolated or unwell, another “well” team member can step up.

This is an unprecedented time in healthcare and in our community. Our healthcare practices are not as we hoped, but we must put safety first.

Thank you for your kind understanding with these changes