



MATER HOSPITAL
A FACILITY OF
ST VINCENT'S
HEALTH AUSTRALIA

Paediatrician Services and Fees

at the Mater Hospital



Thank you for choosing to have your baby at the Mater Hospital. We are proud of our reputation for providing a comprehensive and high-quality service to our patients.

The Mater has experienced specialist paediatricians available who ensure safe, high-quality care for your baby. They provide 24-hour availability during the hospital stay. A referral will be made by your obstetrician to a paediatrician on your baby's birth. The paediatrician has an important role to play in the wellbeing and safety of your baby, who will receive routine care and examinations from the paediatrician, who may be required to attend an emergency if needed.

During the admission to the Mater, your paediatrician will routinely assess your baby twice. First in the days after birth and again closer to discharge. They will provide comprehensive clinical care for your baby for the duration of the hospital stay. They may be called in for an emergency (including after hours), for example for the delivery if requested by the obstetrician, or if your baby develops medical concerns such as breathing problems or a high fever.

Often, well babies can develop other problems requiring management, such as jaundice (yellow discoloration of skin). The paediatrician will advise you and the treating midwives if any treatment or ongoing medication is necessary. If your baby requires admission to the Special Care Nursery, the admission will be managed by the assigned paediatrician for the duration of your baby's stay. He/she will be notified of any results from your baby's Newborn Screening after discharge and will discuss these results with you.

Department of Paediatrics
Mater Hospital

Paediatricians are private practitioners. After discharge from the Mater, you will receive an invoice for their attendances, which are claimable from Medicare (if eligible) once your baby is registered. Paediatrician fees are based on AMA (Australian Medical Association) rates. Claim amounts vary depending on your Medicare Safety Net Threshold, up to 80% of the total if you have reached the threshold for the year. Babies not admitted to the Special Care Nursery are considered an outpatient by Medicare. If your baby is admitted to the Special Care Nursery for a period of four hours or more, you will have an "inpatient" note on the invoice for each paediatrician attendance, which is additionally claimable from your private health fund once your baby is registered.

The paediatrician will be pleased to review your baby in their outpatient clinic following discharge if required. Your baby's initial referral from the obstetrician is valid for three months from birth for Medicare claim purposes. After this time, you will need a new referral from your GP to claim a Medicare rebate for clinic attendances.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask your paediatrician.

Better and
fairer care.
Always.