

ANTENATAL VISITS PROVIDED IN THE COMMUNITY

1. AIM

- Antenatal visits are provided in community

2. PATIENT

- Woman receiving care from a Midwifery Group Practice (MGP)

3. STAFF

- MGP midwife
- Student Midwife who is working with an MGP midwife

4. EQUIPMENT

- Sphygmomanometer
- Stethoscope
- Disposable tape measure
- Hand held Doppler
- Mobile Phone
- Computer with access to electronic Medical Record (eMR)
- Sterile and non-sterile gloves
- Lubricant
- Venepuncture equipment
- Vaginal swab(s)
- Yellow top sterile specimen container
- Plastic specimen transport bags
- Portable sharps container
- Esky® (portable cooler) for transport of specimens

5. CLINICAL PRACTICE

- Arrange daytime antenatal visit at a mutually convenient and acceptable time in the woman's home, or community clinic
- Ensure Work Health and Safety(WHS) risk assessment is completed
- Notify another midwife, by telephone call or text message, of planned home or community visit including woman's name and address
- Perform and document visit as per usual practice
- Recommend transfer to hospital if further consultation required
- Notify midwife, by telephone call or text message, of your departure from woman's home or community clinic
- Transport any specimens back to hospital in an Esky®
- Transport any equipment used in woman's home back to hospital for safe disposal or storage

6. DOCUMENTATION

- Medical record
- WHS risk assessment form

ANTENATAL VISITS PROVIDED IN THE COMMUNITY cont'd

7. EDUCATIONAL NOTES

- Offering a visit in the woman's home provides the midwife with the opportunity to:
 - discuss early/pre-labour management
 - assess possibility of offering early labour assessment in the woman's home
 - discuss early discharge home post birth
- The option of home visits may be more convenient for the woman. It may also provide insight into the woman's social context and increase her ability to make well informed choices.
- Home or community based antenatal assessment may reduce the frequency and/or length of hospital admission.
- Do not give Anti-D or immunisations in the community setting

8. RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES/CLINICAL GUIDELINES

- Early labour assessment in the woman's home
- ACM guidelines for consultation and referral
- Blood pressure measurement on a pregnant woman
- Vaginal examinations in Labour
- Early labour assessment and management in a low risk pregnancy

9. RISK RATING

- Low

10. NATIONAL STANDARD

- CC – Comprehensive Care

11. REFERENCES

- Pairman S., Pincombe C, Thorogood S and Tracy S (2015) Midwifery Preparation for Practice. Churchill Livingstone. Sydney

REVISION & APPROVAL HISTORY

Reviewed and endorsed Maternity Services LOPs 14/8/18
Approved Quality & Patient Safety Committee 18/6/09
Endorsed Obstetrics Clinical Guidelines Group May 2009

FOR REVIEW : AUGUST 2023