



GUIDELINE

Visiting Midwifery Service (VMS)

Scope (Staff):	Nursing and Medical Staff
Scope (Area):	NICU KEMH, NICU PCH, NETS WA

Child Safe Organisation Statement of Commitment

CAHS commits to being a child safe organisation by applying the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This is a commitment to a strong culture supported by robust policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people.

This document should be read in conjunction with this [disclaimer](#)

Aim

To outline the process to follow for referring neonates to the WNHS Visiting Midwifery Service (VMS)

VMS is utilised to visit infants in the Perth Metro area who do not fit the Neonatology Home Visiting Nurse criteria. VMS will visit if the family reside within a 40km radius of the hospital. Refer to the O&G [Visiting Midwifery Service \(VMS\) Referral](#) guideline for further information.


- Complete the following and deliver both to the Hospital Clinical Managers (HCM) office:
 - **VMS Special Care Nursery referral form (MR 255.03)**
 - **Home Visiting Risk Assessment form (MR255.04)**
- Specify '**Reason for Referral**', i.e. what is VMS visiting for? e.g. weight check, feeding issues. VMS does not offer phlebotomy services.
- In Relevant History include respiratory support and duration, IVAB duration, jaundice and duration of phototherapy, weight gain, and any other relevant clinical information.
- Confirm with medical staff when VMS should visit i.e. the next day, two days after discharge.
- A courtesy call and message can be left on the VMS answering machine – but is not a requirement. Phone: (08) 6458 1530
- Referrals for the next day **must be delivered to HCM by 1900 hours**. Take to the level 4 HCM office, place referral and risk assessment form in VMS dexion.

- If risk factors are present on MR 255.04, give referral to neonatal Discharge Coordinator by 1500 hours. Discharge coordinator to liaise with HCM to book an outpatient VMS appointment at King Edward Memorial Hospital. If after 1500 hours, call HCM to book outpatient VMS appointment. Deliver both forms to level 4 HCM office.
- Place 12 addressograph labels in the infant's child health book.
- Visits will be on the following day between 0800-1600 hours (7 days/week) unless arranged for another date. Advise parents that they need to be at home between 0800 – 1600hours as VMS are unable to give a definite appointment time.

References and related external legislation, policies, and guidelines

WNHS Obstetrics & Gynaecology – [Visiting Midwifery Service \(VMS\): Referrals](#)

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

Document Owner:	Neonatology		
Reviewer / Team:	Neonatal Coordinating Group (Discharge Coordinator)		
Date First Issued:	August 2006	Last Reviewed:	November 2024
Amendment Dates:		Next Review Date:	November 2027
Approved by:	Neonatal Coordinating Group	Date:	26 th November 2024
Endorsed by:	Neonatal Coordinating Group	Date:	
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards:  Child Safe Standards: 1,10		

Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled



Healthy kids, healthy communities

Compassion

Excellence

Collaboration

Accountability

Equity

Respect

Neonatology | Community Health | Mental Health | Perth Children's Hospital