



## The Best Birth Clinic at the Maternity Ambulatory Program at BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre has been discontinued as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The Obstetricians who work at BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre (BC Women's) will continue to see patients for Vaginal Birth after Caesarean (VBAC) and malpresentation consultation, but these consults will no longer take place in the Maternity Ambulatory Program at BC Women's through the Best Birth Clinic (BBC), but rather in their private offices.

### **How do I arrange for a Vaginal Birth after Caesarean consultation?**

These consults are considered non-urgent and you can refer your patient to any Obstetrician of your choice and they will be seen by them in their private offices. Please ensure that your patient is registered to deliver at BC Women's and that you refer with enough lead time to arrange appropriate scheduling. If you are referring a patient from an outlying region because the local hospital does not provide a VBAC service, your patient if accepting of a VBAC, will be eligible to be registered to deliver at BC Women's.

If your patient chooses to have an elective repeat Caesarean Section or if your local hospital does provide a VBAC service, please refer to one of the Obstetricians from that hospital, as your patient will not be eligible to deliver at BC Women's.

### **How do I arrange an urgent consult for malpresentation?**

If you have a patient who needs an urgent consult for malpresentation at or after 36 weeks you can refer to one of the Obstetricians of your choice at their offices to arrange a consult and ongoing management if appropriate.

You can also page the Onsite Obstetrician on call at (604) 875-2161 and after discussing the case with them, they will be able to arrange an urgent consult with your patient either at BC Women's in the Maternity Ambulatory Program on an urgent basis or in their private clinics, depending on their availability.

**Will External Cephalic Versions (ECV) and Vaginal Breech deliveries continue to be offered now that the BBC will no longer operate?**

Yes, BC Women's will continue to offer both of these services but the way that care is accessed will change.

Once an Obstetrician has seen your patient, then that Obstetrician will arrange for the ECV or for the elective Caesarean Section to be performed. All efforts will be made to enable the Obstetrician who did to the initial consultation to also do the procedures. However, due to scheduling conflicts this may not always be possible. You, as the referring care provider will be notified of the date and time of the ECV and or Caesarean Section. You are welcome to be present at these procedures to provide supportive care and if appropriate, surgical assistance.

If your patient chooses to have a vaginal breech delivery then care of your patient will be transferred to the obstetrician doing the consultation until the time of delivery. You are welcome to provide supportive care for your patient up to and including the point of delivery. After delivery, the patient's care will be transferred back to you.

Not all of the Obstetricians who work at BC Women's have the skill set to provide a safe vaginal breech delivery so it is important for you or your patient to call the charge nurse on the labour ward at (604) 875-2165 before coming to the hospital (in labour or with ruptured membranes) so that you can be informed if the doctors on call at that time can provide the option of a vaginal breech delivery. If that service cannot be provided to your patient who is now in labour or has ruptured membranes, they will be offered a Caesarean delivery. If your patient is not registered to deliver via Caesarean Section at BC Women's then they should proceed to their local hospital where they were initially registered, to have a Caesarean Section performed there.

Thank you for your past support of the Best Birth Clinic. We will continue to provide your patients with supportive care through their pregnancy and childbirth.

If you have any questions, please contact the Program Manager at (604) 875-2820.