



Document ID: MATY098	Version: 1.0
Facilitated by: Meera Sood, Obstetrician	Last reviewed: February 2016
Approved by: Maternity Quality Committee	Review date: February 2018

Escalation Plan for Consultant cover

Hutt Maternity Policies provide guidance for the midwives and medical staff working in Hutt Maternity Services. Please discuss policies relevant to your care with your Lead Maternity Carer.

Purpose

This guideline outlines the escalation plan when the on-call obstetric consultant is unable to attend at times of clinical need.

Scope

All medical and midwifery staff employed by Hutt Valley DHB.
All Hutt Valley DHB Maternity access holders.

Plan

It is agreed that the HVDHB Consultant Obstetricians are willing to cover/ be contacted if the consultant on call is unable to attend within the required 20 minutes of clinical need or is busy with another clinical situation in the unit.

All SMOs are available to be called.

SMOs are willing to cover as needed in rare cases of staff shortage. However, the coordinator should call the Consultant on call for a contingency plan. A second consultant can also be used in these scenarios.

A healthcare event is to be filled every time this situation arises.

Informed Consent

The right of a consumer to make an informed choice and give informed consent, including the right to refuse medical treatment, is enshrined in law and in the Code of Health and Disability Consumers' Rights in New Zealand. This means that a woman can choose to decline treatment, referral to another practitioner, or transfer of clinical responsibility. If this occurs follow the process map on page 18 of the Referral Guidelines (Ministry of Health, 2012).