

Abortion services in Victoria

Abortion is legal in Victoria. Abortion services are located in both Melbourne and rural Victoria, although the majority of service providers are in Melbourne.

Costs vary between clinics but all procedures are covered, in part, by Medicare. Discounts are available for concession card holders. Even if you are not covered by Medicare, fees may be reimbursed by private health insurance providers. Costs also depend on how long you have been pregnant and whether you will be having a surgical or medical abortion.

Abortion services in rural areas

Abortion services tend to be concentrated in metropolitan Melbourne. There are services in some rural areas and options should be discussed with your doctor or you can contact your local community or women's health service (see the **Where to get help** section of this fact sheet for details about how to access the *Directory of Local Community or Women's Health Services*). Most Melbourne service providers cater for rural women and offer a 'same day service'.

How to find an abortion service

Most abortion service providers in Victoria are listed in this fact sheet, but you can also find information through your doctor or other health services.

Abortion services are provided by some of the large public hospitals in Melbourne and some rural hospitals. Private services are listed in the *Yellow Pages* under 'Pregnancy Termination Services'. Your doctor (GP), community health service or women's health service may also have information about local providers.

There are also some abortion services available in rural areas that are not listed below. Your doctor can provide you with details of these services.

How to choose an abortion service

There are a number of issues to consider when you choose an abortion service:

- **Cost** – some public hospitals provide a small number of abortions at no cost. If you have a Medicare card, out-of-pocket expenses vary with private providers and range from around \$200 to \$500. If you do not have a Medicare card, out-of-pocket costs can be higher. It may be possible to have your health fund billed if you have private insurance. Fees vary based on how long you have been pregnant and whether you are having a medical or surgical abortion.
- **Discounts and waiving fees** – there is often a discount for students or health care card holders. Some providers may reduce or waive the fee if you are experiencing financial difficulty.
- **Privacy** – some services are known to attract anti-abortion picketers and so may have an alternative entrance to maintain your privacy. Ask over the phone beforehand if you are concerned.
- **Same day service** – some services may require two visits, although many will just require one visit.
- **Contraceptive services** – some services may be able to insert Implanon or an IUD (intrauterine device) while you are under anaesthetic.
- **Type of anaesthetic** – these vary from a local anaesthetic (for which you are awake) to a general anaesthetic (for which you are asleep). Twilight anaesthetic is somewhere in between. The type of anaesthetic used will vary according to your provider and your individual circumstances.
- **Length of pregnancy** – most providers will perform an abortion up to 12 weeks after the last normal period. Some providers will perform terminations for later pregnancies.
- **Medical or surgical abortion** – most providers use a surgical procedure to perform abortions. However, an increasing number of services offer a medical procedure. The type of abortion you have will depend on the length of your pregnancy and the procedures available from your provider. Information about the differences between medical and surgical abortions is provided in the Better Health Channel fact sheet on **Abortion**.

Please note, this information is intended as a guide only. Always contact providers directly for specific information relating to your individual circumstances.

Public hospital abortion services A–Z

NAME	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	FEES	DURATION OF PREGNANCY	TYPE OF ANAESTHETIC	TYPE OF PROCEDURE AVAILABLE	DAYS OF SERVICE	COUNTRY WOMEN SAME DAY SERVICE
Contraceptive and Counselling Clinic – Monash Medical Centre	(03) 9594 2952	246 Clayton Rd, Clayton	Medicare card: No cost <i>Limited places – priority is given to teenagers and victims of sexual assault</i> <i>Phone for further information</i>	Less than 12 weeks on the date of the termination	General	Surgical	Phone Monday 3.00–4.30pm for a first appointment <i>Procedures on Fridays only</i>	No
Pregnancy Advisory Service – The Royal Women’s Hospital Unplanned Pregnancy Guide	(03) 8345 3063 <i>Because of the high volume of calls, callers may not get through immediately</i>	Cnr Grattan St & Flemington Rd, Parkville	Public patient: No cost <i>Limited places</i> Private patient: Contact the Pregnancy Advisory Service for fees	6–12 weeks <i>Limited appointments available up to 16 weeks</i>	Usually general anaesthetic	Usually surgical abortion <i>Medical abortions may also be available, depending on individual circumstances</i>	Monday to Friday	Yes <i>Some same day services are available</i> <i>Phone to discuss.</i>

Private abortion services A–Z

NAME	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	FEES	DURATION OF PREGNANCY	TYPE OF ANAESTHETIC AVAILABLE	TYPE OF PROCEDURE AVAILABLE	DAYS OF SERVICE	COUNTRY WOMEN SAME DAY SERVICE
Fertility Control Clinic	(03) 9419 2922	116–118 Wellington Pde, East Melbourne	Medicare card: Weekdays: \$320 Saturday: \$350 Concession: Weekdays \$230 (no concession on Saturdays) <i>Fees are higher after 12 weeks</i>	Up to 16 weeks	Local, general and twilight anaesthetic	Surgical	Monday to Friday Saturday morning	Yes

The Hampton Park Women's Health Care Centre	(03) 9799 2817	2-4 Warana Dve, Hampton Park	<p>Under 12 weeks pregnant:</p> <p>Medicare card: \$330</p> <p>Concession: \$285</p> <p>Private (Not covered by Medicare): \$725</p> <p><i>Fees are higher after 12 weeks</i></p>	Up to 13 weeks	Local and twilight anaesthetic	Surgical Also provides medical procedure tablet	Monday to Friday	Yes
Dr Marie	Freecall: 1800 003 707	East St Kilda	<p><i>Phone for information regarding fees</i></p> <p><i>Prices vary for concession and Medicare card holders, and for people who are not covered by Medicare</i></p>	Up to 12 weeks	Twilight anaesthetic	Medical and surgical	<p>Days of operation vary from week to week</p> <p>Phone for information and appointments</p>	No
		East Melbourne	<p><i>Phone for information regarding fees</i></p> <p><i>Prices vary for concession and Medicare card holders, and for people who are not covered by Medicare</i></p>	Minimum 5 weeks -up to 8 weeks and 6 days	Not applicable for medical abortions	Medical	<p>Usually Monday and Wednesday</p> <p>Phone for information and appointments</p>	<p>Yes if available appointment</p> <p>Medical procedures require two appointments approximately two weeks apart</p>
		Maroondah	<p><i>Phone for information regarding fees</i></p> <p><i>Prices vary for concession and Medicare card holders, and people who are not covered by Medicare</i></p>	Up to 24 weeks	Twilight anaesthetic	Medical and surgical	<p>Usually Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday</p> <p>Phone for information and appointments</p>	<p>Depends on type of procedure</p> <p>Early surgical procedures require one procedure only</p>

								<p>Medical procedures require two appointments approximately two weeks apart</p> <p>Surgical procedures in later pregnancy require two appointments on two consecutive days</p>
Monash Family Planning	(03) 9544 9902	252 Clayton Rd, Clayton	<p>Medicare card: \$350</p> <p>Not covered by Medicare: \$800</p>	6–12 weeks	General anaesthetic	Surgical	<p>Open every day for information</p> <p>Appointment days vary each week</p> <p>Phone for further information and appointments</p>	Yes
The Women's Clinic in Dandenong	(03) 9792 4622	129 Cleeland St, Dandenong	<p>6–12 weeks</p> <p>Medicare card without private health insurance: \$300</p> <p>Phone for further information regarding fees</p> <p>Prices vary depending on whether you have a Medicare card, private health insurance and for pregnancies greater than 12 weeks.</p>	Up to 13 weeks	General and local anaesthetic	Surgical	Phone for further information and appointments	Yes

Where to get help

- Your doctor
- Women's health services
- Community health centre
- Pregnancy Advisory Service Tel. (03) 8345 3063
- Pregnancy Birth and Baby Helpline Tel. 1800 88 24 36
- Family Planning Victoria
- Directory of local community or women's health services
- Yellow Pages under 'Pregnancy Termination Services'

Things to remember

- Abortion is legal in Victoria.
- Most abortion service providers are located in Melbourne but some provide 'same day' services for women from country areas.
- Abortion services are also available in some rural areas. Your doctor can provide you with details of these services.
- Costs vary between clinics but all procedures are covered, in part, by Medicare. Discounts are available for concession card holders. Even if you are not covered by Medicare, fees may be reimbursed by private health insurance providers.

This page has been produced in consultation with, and approved by:

Women's Health Victoria

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