

Social Work Service

Patient Information — Gynaecology

Available for women/couples and their families using the Gynaecology Service of Christchurch Women's Hospital

Our Services

Presentation to hospital can be a time of stress and uncertainty for a woman and her family.

Contact with a Social Worker may relieve some anxiety and provide opportunities for information and support/counselling as needed.

Having medical examinations and treatment can be distressing for some women and it is appropriate to access additional support at such times. Discussing this with you before admission may be helpful.

For some of you this may be a time of grief and loss. Social Workers have a thorough knowledge of the grief process and can offer practical as well as emotional support, information and follow up counselling.

We are able to see a woman as an outpatient (before a planned admission or as a follow up from an admission). You can either contact our service directly or ask hospital staff to refer you to Social Work.

Our aim:

We aim to provide a free, confidential, professional service for Maternity Service patients and their families.

We are accountable for the quality of our service through our Clinical Manager and Team Leader, and memberships to SWRB and ANZASW.

Our services

We provide:

- support
- information
- referral to community agencies
- referral to statutory agencies
- decision-making assistance
- advocacy
- brief counselling

Social Workers are available to discuss a wide range of issues including:

- decision making
- where to get information and support

- relationship difficulties
- stress management
- practical matters
- coping with treatment
- anxiety and depression
- arrangements after foetal loss
- grief responses
- domestic violence
- sexual abuse

These may occur in relation to:

- hysterectomy
- ectopic pregnancy
- miscarriage
- intra uterine death
- termination of pregnancy
- foetal abnormality
- hyperemesis
- cancer of reproductive organs
- endometriosis
- menopause
- sexually transmitted disease
- pelvic inflammatory disease
- PMT
- colposcopy
- Infertility

When we provide our Services:

We offer our service to women / couples before, during and after their hospital admission.

We would welcome you making contact with us directly at:

Social Work Service
42 Stewart Street, Christchurch
8:00am - 4:30pm
Monday to Friday
☎ (03) 364 0420
Fax No: (03) 364 1139

For more information about:

- your health and medication, go to www.healthinfo.org.nz
- hospital and specialist services, go to www.cdhb.health.nz