

October 2025

Dear Colleague,

On Wednesday, October 8, 2025, all THP inpatient women's and children's services will officially be provided in a single, integrated site at the Credit Valley Hospital. This exciting integration brings birthing, neonatal intensive care, gynecology, and paediatric inpatient services together under one roof, creating a single, coordinated hub of care for women, children, and families. This is an important first step as we build to the future Shah Family Women's and Children's Hospital.

We want to acknowledge the concerns many of you have raised over the past few months regarding access to obstetrical care for your patients. We are not decreasing our overall capacity with integration, but increased demand for birthing services across the region has emerged as a new challenge. We recognize the impact this has had on your practice and, more importantly, on the patients and families you serve.

What is changing?

Effective October 1, 2025, the Ob/Gyn community offices affiliated with THP (thpobgyn.ca) will prioritize antenatal obstetrical referrals for patients who reside within the THP catchment area and/or who have previously received care with us, so long as the referral is **received before 14 weeks' gestation**. This will help ensure that patients residing in our community are able to receive timely access to antenatal care and subsequent obstetrical services close to home.

Referrals for all patients, including those who are out-of-catchment, will be accepted after 14 weeks' gestation as space allows.

What does this mean for your practice?

If you have a pregnant patient residing in Mississauga or West Etobicoke, please refer them as soon as a positive fetal heart rate is confirmed in the first trimester. They will be prioritized for antenatal care and subsequent obstetrical services at THP.

What will happen if an out-of-catchment patient is referred before 14 weeks?

As we are unable to commit to accommodating these patients, the referral will be declined, and you will be asked to re-refer **after 14 weeks** gestation, if so desired.

Will patients who are accepted be seen earlier?

Due to continued high volumes, we will not be able to see patients earlier than we currently do in their pregnancy, even when they have been accepted for prenatal care and delivery. Please continue prenatal care, including Aspirin when appropriate, booking and reviewing appropriate prenatal screening (prenatalscreeningontario.ca) and the anatomy scan (18-20 weeks) until their first obstetrical appointment.

We welcome your feedback and encourage you to reach out with any questions. Please visit us at www.thpobgyn.ca/referrals for more information. Thank you for your ongoing collaboration and commitment to patient care.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sohal Goyal - Chair - Primary Care Network

Dr. Ally Murji - Chief & Medical Director, Women's & Children's Program THP

Dr. Abhishek Narayan - Interim Chief and Medical Director, Rehabilitative and Complex Continuing Care Services; And Connected and Primary Care

Kathy Skelly - Program Director, Women's & Children's Program THP

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