

The WLMH obstetrical unit is redirecting patients to other sites from 3 pm on Friday to 7 am on Monday.

Many physicians and midwives who deliver babies at WLMH can also do so at Niagara Health - St Catharines Site on Fourth Avenue. You may also go to McMaster University Medical Centre (MUMC) or another hospital of your choice.

As part of your plans, please discuss weekend options with your physician or midwife.

At any time (including times of redirect), when you go into labour, call the WLMH obstetrics department 905-945-2253 x350 and you will receive instructions from the obstetrics team.

The obstetrics nurse will:

- Contact your provider (physician or midwife)
- Confirm the hospital you are going to and advise them of your arrival
- Ensure the receiving hospital has access to your health records.

In an emergency, call 911. The Emergency Department at WLMH remains open 24/7.

Your regular care and appointments before and after the birth will take place as planned.

Please ask your obstetrical care provider for a copy of your antenatal records after 36 weeks.

This temporary weekend redirection is due to staff shortages at West Lincoln Memorial Hospital that limit the availability of operating room nurses. As a result, the operating room would not be available for C-sections or other surgeries for problems arising after birth, if needed. For the safety of our patients, labour and delivery will not take place during the weekend at WLMH.

Hospital management is working diligently to recruit appropriately skilled nurses so that weekend service can resume as soon as possible.

Please visit www.wlmh.ca for further information.