

As of February 22, 2019, our obstetrical unit will be on redirect from 3 pm on Friday and 7 am on Monday. This means if you go into labour during this time, you will deliver your baby at McMaster University Medical Centre (MUMC) or another local hospital of your choice. Physicians and midwives who deliver babies at WLMH can also do so at MUMC. We are also working toward having your local team (midwife group or physician group) provide your care at other local hospitals.

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:

- Confirm MUMC as the hospital you are going to and advise them of your arrival
- Contact your provider – physician or midwife
- Let you know if your local team will be able to care for you there.

If you are going to an alternate hospital, the obstetrics nurse will also:

- Contact the hospital to let them know you are on your way
- Ensure the receiving hospital has access to your health records.
- Let you know if your local team will be able to care for you there.

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 that could arise after birth. For the safety of our patients, labour and delivery will not take place during the weekend at WLMH.

Information about Hamilton Health Sciences' Patient Experience team is available on the website ([link](#)). They may be reached by phone at 905-521-2100 Ext. 75240. Hospital management is working diligently to recruit appropriately skilled nurses so that weekend service can resume as soon as possible.

You can also visit our new website: wlmh.ca for further information.