The Victorian journey of the pandemic - The surge response

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'Reflections from the Field'



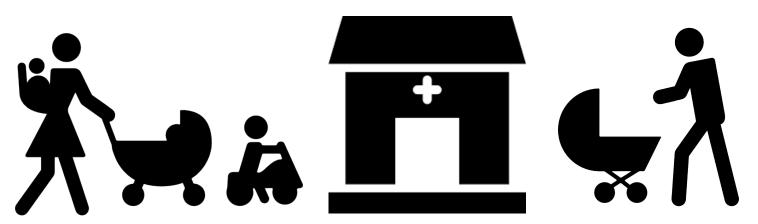
MCH Service in Victoria







- MAV / Department of Health / Safer Care Victoria
- MCH Policy Adviser MAV / Principal MCH Nurse Adviser SCV
- 79 Local Government Councils (48 Regional/Rural & 31 Metro)
- Place based service
- Aboriginal MCH





KEY EVENTS

Lockdown 1 Mar 30 – May 12 2020

Lockdown 2 July 8 – Oct 27 2020

Lockdown 3 12 Feb – 17 Feb 2021

Lockdown 4 27 May – 10 June 2021

Lockdown 5 15 July – 27 July 2021

Lockdown 6 5 Aug – 21 Oct 2021

MCH COVID 19 Surge Response 28 Jan – 11 Mar 2022

TIMELINE MCH SERVICE DELIVERY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC 2020-2022

o Wave 1 Start reopening

- State of Emergency declaredTelehealth introduced
- Online consultations
- First Time Parent Groups online
- PPE shortages reduces F2F consultations

- Regional/Rural resume standard length consults all age groups
- Metro All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups – short F2F consultations gradual move to resumption for all mid October with easing restrictions

Circuit Breaker

- COVID 19 Code Red
- All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups – short F2F consultations
- F2F COVID screening
- Schools closed
- Eye protection added to PPE
- Respiratory Protection
 Program commenced for MCH

MCH Surge Response

- Code Brown for health services Leave cancelled, redeployment of staff to meet critical need
- Prioritised service in Metro MCH All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups
- Some MCH nurses redeployed to some Maternity services
- LGA to LGA MCH service support

March 2020

July 2020

Sept 2020

Feb 2021

May 2021

August 2021

Jan 2022

March 2022

Wave 2

- All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups – short F2F consultations
- Differences in service delivery across Metro and Regional/Rural areas
- Tier 1 PPE required
- Groups limited to 10 people & 4 sqm rule

Delta Wave

- Stage 4 state-wide restrictions
- COVID screening COVID safe plans
- All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups – short F2F consultations
- Telehealth for all others followed by short F2F
- · Groups online

Omicron Wave

- COVID 19 Peak Code Black
- All infants 0-8 weeks and priority groups – short F2F consultations
- Restricted F2F PCG & child
- COVID Response teams
- Staff shortages
- curfews in place

New Normal

- Most MCH services return to full-service delivery
- PPE & screening requirements remain



Partnership Approach

Joint Discussions by MAV/DH/SCV with:

Midwifery Hospitals

MCH Coordinators/Managers/Directors across the State

ANMF

Industrial Relations Department of Health

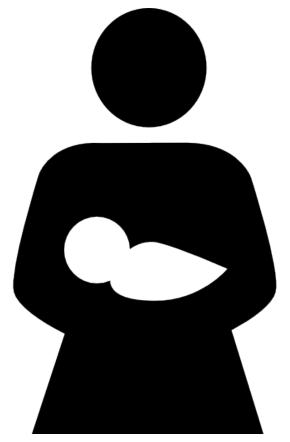
Insurance - MAV





Temporary prioritisation of metropolitan Local Government MCH services for:

- All infants aged 0-8 weeks and their mother/primary caregiver
- All Aboriginal infants, children and families (0-5 years)
- All infants and children over 8 weeks of age with additional needs or concerns, including families on the Enhanced MCH program and those with COVID-19.





Midwifery Support

- 37 MCH Nurses representing 18.1 FTE from across 11 Local Government MCH services volunteered to support Health Services
- 8 MCH nurses from 4 Local Government MCH services representing 3 FTE were rostered to deliver 30 shifts for two Health Services.







Cross municipal support for MCH services:





71% Offered & made available support



708 Total visits



620 telehealth





Admin support



Joined-up group support



What an amazing workforce!







On Reflection what have we learnt?

Contract template to 'buy in' services – LGA to LGA

Strengthened Maternity Service connections – Improving continuity of care

Continued support for MCH services under workforce pressure

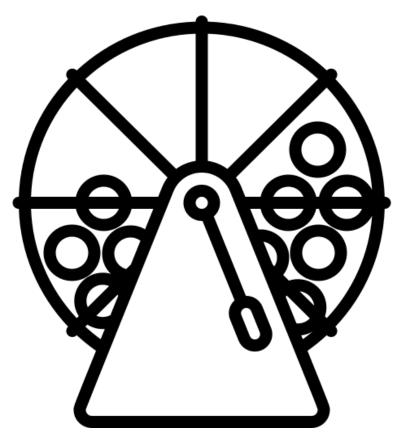
Exploration of solutions for workforce shortage eg MCH student model













What about now?

We no longer have Pandemic Orders and need to follow Local Government Policies and workplace COVID Safe Plans

- We are a highly vaccinated workforce and have a role to play in promoting vaccination.
- We are still using Telehealth
- We still require PPE
- We are still screening clients
- We are still receiving lists of COVID positive infants < 12month
- We still have staff and clients affected by COVID impacting workplaces



