

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Authorization and Preauthorization:
Fee Care RN - Lisa Seeley
605-336-3230, Ext. 6578 or Ext. 6721
Fax: 605-333-6832

Co-pays, billing and payment status:
VA Business Office – 605-333-6855
Fax: 605-333-5304

Pharmacy Fax: 605-333-5305

Women Veterans Program Manager

Charlotte McGrath
605-336-3230, Ext. 7747

If you do not have insurance coverage for your newborn, you must arrange for it. Some programs that may be of assistance:

South Dakota

Medicaid Eligibility 605-773-4678
WIC 605-773-3361
Bright Start 605-773-4766
Within SD, Dial 211
www.dss.sd.gov

Minnesota

Minnesota Care 1-800-657-3672
County Human Service Office 1-800-657-3739
WIC 1-800-942-4030
www.dhs.state.mn.us/healthcare

Iowa

Iowa Medicaid Enterprise 1-800-338-8366
Hawk-I 1-800-257-8563
www.dhs.state.ia.us

Nebraska

Kids Connection 1-877-632-5437
www.hhs.state.ne.us/med/kidsconx.htm

Depression after pregnancy

Some women feel sad, afraid, angry or nervous after their baby is born. These feelings usually go away in one to two weeks. However, if symptoms get worse and last for more than two weeks, it may be postpartum depression. Postpartum depression is a serious condition and early diagnosis and treatment is important. Contact your VA primary care provider immediately if you think you have symptoms of postpartum depression. If you are having thoughts of harming yourself or others, go the nearest emergency medical facility, or call the VA National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

This is a 24-hour, toll-free suicide prevention service available to any Veteran in emotional crisis.



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WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE



*You served, you deserve
the best
care anywhere*

VA Maternity Benefits Guide for Women Veterans

**SIoux FALLS
VA MEDICAL CENTER**
2501 W. 22ND Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-336-3230 or 1-800-316-8387

All women Veterans enrolled and eligible for VA care can receive maternity benefits through VA.

Maternity care is not physically provided at VA. Instead, maternity care is paid through the Fee Basis Program. Fee Basis is when VA authorizes health care to be provided by a community provider outside VA. Once your primary care provider confirms your pregnancy, our Fee Basis Department is consulted to begin processing maternity benefits for you. Fee Basis works with Humana's Project HERO program. Humana staff will contact you by phone offering you an obstetrician for your maternity care. You have the option to accept or refuse the obstetrician offered to you. Humana will communicate your acceptance or refusal of the obstetrician to VA Fee Basis staff. If you refuse the obstetrician selected by Humana, local VA Fee Basis staff will phone you and ask you to select an obstetrician.

Steps to take if you think you may be pregnant:

1. Enroll for VA care, if you have not previously done so.
2. Contact your VA health care provider.

Included VA Maternity Benefits:

- Obstetrician prenatal care, labor & delivery, and post-partum exam
- Hospitalization for labor and delivery
- Any other medically necessary treatments related to the pregnancy
- Up to seven days of medical care for your newborn baby
- Breast pumps provided by VA prosthetics
- Prescriptions filled at VA pharmacy



NOT covered by VA Maternity Benefits:

- Prescriptions filled at an outside pharmacy, except for emergencies
- Transportation to and from prenatal and post-partum appointments
- Home deliveries
- Experimental or non-VA approved medical procedures

If pregnancy-related medical concerns arise and your obstetrician thinks you need to see another specialist, you can be referred to a non-VA specialist doctor. The obstetrician's office must telephone the VA Fee Basis office to obtain prior approval for this specialty consultation.

Patients already under the care of VA specialists may continue to be treated at VA for their medical conditions.

The Sioux Falls VA Medical Center and our CBOCs are not equipped to address **obstetrical emergencies**. For maternity related medical emergencies, go to the nearest hospital or hospital where your doctor will deliver your baby. Contact the VA as soon as possible to report an emergency visit.

If you pay a **co-payment** when you are seen at VA, you will be responsible for a physician co-pay when seen by the OB physician. If you have health insurance and VA has your insurance information, your insurance will be billed for your co-payment.

Medications ordered by your obstetrician for your pregnancy should be filled by the VA Pharmacy. Prescriptions may be brought to Sioux Falls VA Medical Center Pharmacy window to be filled or your obstetrician may fax the prescriptions to VA and the prescription will be mailed to you.

The administrative staff in your obstetrician's office will send **bills** directly to the VA Business Office.

