

# Paediatric Hospitals Melbourne



The Royal Children's Hospital is the major paediatric hospital in Victoria and provides care to the sickest and most critically injured children who need highly specialised care. It is the designated state-wide major trauma centre for paediatrics and the designated burns unit for paediatrics in Victoria, as well as a Nationally Funded Centre for cardiac and liver transplantation.

If your child does not have a history of specialised care at The Royal Children's Hospital, then the first place you should visit if you are concerned about your child's health is your **local** doctor or **local** paediatric emergency department, or call for an ambulance if it is an emergency. The treating paediatric team at your local paediatric hospital or the ambulance paramedics will determine whether your child can be treated locally or needs to be transferred to The Royal Children's Hospital for specialist care.

The Royal Children's Hospital is also the local children's hospital for families who live in the inner suburbs of Melbourne. However, for families in which The Royal Children's Hospital is not their closest paediatric hospital then they should not bypass their local paediatric hospital to bring their child to The Royal Children's Hospital. This ensures that there is an even distribution of patients across all hospitals and assists with delivering high quality care to all children in a timely manner and as close to home as possible.

At hospital, the sickest patients always get treated first. To determine the order of treatment all patients, including those brought in by ambulance, are assessed by a triage nurse upon arrival who then designates them a triage category. A common myth is that having your child transported to emergency by an ambulance will get them a higher triage category and they will be seen faster. However, this is not true as they are assessed by the same triage nurse using the same assessment criteria which is used on children brought into emergency by their parents.

To find your closest hospital offering paediatric services in Melbourne please see the list below.

- Angliss
- Austin
- Box Hill
- Casey
- Dandenong
- Frankston
- Maroondah
- Monash
- Northern
- Sandringham
- Sunshine
- The Royal Children's
- Werribee
- Williamstown (*not 24 hrs*)

## Private Hospitals

*Please note that a non-refundable fee is payable upon arrival at private emergency departments (range \$275 - \$480 minimum)*

- Cabrini Malvern
- Epworth Richmond
- Knox
- Peninsula Private