

Question on Notice

No. 782

Asked on 14 June 2023

MR L MILLAR ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

With reference to all the Queensland Health maternity units—

Will the Minister advise if it is standard practice to have a senior clinical midwife review all antenatal referrals, including pathology and imaging, immediately upon receipt of a new patient referral?

ANSWER

Maternity referrals are usually triaged according to criteria determined by the local senior clinicians upon receipt to a Hospital and Health Service. Once received the referral is provided to the midwifery team for triage. Dependent on clarity or complexity contained within the referral, consultation with the wider maternity team may occur prior to clinic speciality or appointment being allocated.

There are a number of Statewide Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Guidelines (<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg/publications>), including a Standard Care Guideline (https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0029/733277/g-standardcare.pdf). However, each Hospital and Health Service manages their maternity service based on local requirements and to the needs of their community.