

Information about Public & Private Hospital Care

If you require a surgical procedure in hospital, you will need to decide whether to be admitted as a public or private patient. If you decide to use a private hospital, you may only be admitted as a private patient.

This brochure outlines the care you will receive when you elect to be treated as a public or a private patient in hospital.

Public Patient Care

After your consultation, and once the decision to proceed with surgery has been made, Dr Reid's office staff will prepare your admission papers and forward these to you. You will need to deliver these to the hospital, and you will be placed on the "waiting list".

A priority will be assigned to your admission, and generally this will be "routine". Urgent priorities are assigned to patients with a suspicion of malignant disease, or those with problems posing an immediate health threat.

Waiting times for admission vary according to demand, but will generally occur within 6 months. You may contact the hospital admission department to get updates on expected waiting times, or to notify them of your availability for "short notice" admission.

Public hospital admissions are controlled by public hospital staff. Neither Dr Reid nor his employees have control over the admission process.

Before admission, you will be required to attend the hospital's "pre-admission" clinic. The hospital will contact you with details of this hospital outpatient appointment.

In hospital, your care will be undertaken by one of Dr Reid's Registrars (senior doctors in specialist training).

In the operating theatre, your surgery will be undertaken by the Registrar, with Dr Reid always in attendance. If your surgery is complex, Dr Reid will assume the role of principal surgeon, with the Registrar acting as the assistant.

The hospital allocates a team of support personnel, including anaesthetists, theatre sisters, and technicians. The hospital also provides staff pathologists to examine any tissue removed at the time of operation.

Your post-operative care will be provided by Dr Reid's Registrar, who will report to

him on a regular basis. The Registrar will provide written reports to your referring doctor about your surgery.

An appointment will be arranged for your review between 2 and 6 weeks following your surgery. Dr Reid will discuss your surgery with you at that time, and consider further treatment.

If you have any problems in the post-operative period, you should contact the hospital, and contact numbers should be provided to you upon discharge.

Private Patient Care

Dr Reid's staff will discuss your hospital care with you and provide written information about the costs of your surgery. They will prepare your admission papers for the hospital of your choice, and forward these to you. You will need to deliver these

papers to the hospital in person, by post or by facsimile.

The timing of your admission will be arranged by Dr Reid's staff to suit your schedule. While this may be influenced by the urgency of your operation, it is normally possible to arrange admission within the next 4 weeks.

In hospital, your care will be undertaken by Dr Reid.

In theatre, Dr Reid will perform your surgery, assisted by his Clinical Fellow or another qualified Gynaecologist.

Dr Reid has a team of selected anaesthetists and other specialised surgeons with whom he works. In Sydney, he employs his own theatre sister, whom you will meet before your surgery.

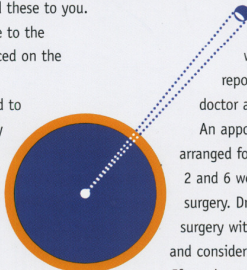
Professor Peter Russell (Mayne Heath) is appointed as the practice Pathologist, and reviews all tissue removed at operation. Professor Russell generally provides a report within 2-3 days of surgery.

After your operation, you will be seen each day by Dr Reid, or occasionally by his assistant.

Dr Reid will send correspondence about your operation to your referring doctor and to you at your request.

At discharge, a review appointment will be arranged for between 2-6 weeks following your surgery.

If any post-operative problems arise, you should contact Dr Reid through his rooms, or he can always be contacted through your private hospital.



Making the Choice

The decision to undergo hospital care as a public or a private patient is a personal and financial choice. While there is no difference in the standard of surgery, your decision should be based upon the value you place upon a chosen surgeon, a chosen team and personal care.