

## PARENT INFANT UNIT - REFERRAL INFORMATION

### Admission Criteria

Inpatient admissions are open to pregnant women in their 3rd trimester of pregnancy and primary caregivers of infants up to the age of 12 months (and not walking) in the following circumstances:

- There is an existing diagnosis, or a risk of developing, a psychiatric illness
- Parent infant attachment difficulties
- The needs and safety of caregivers and infants can be managed appropriately and safely in an open ward environment

Patients may be voluntary or compulsory under the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 provided risk to themselves, and the infant can be safely managed in the ward environment. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis at time of referral.

### Exclusion Criteria

- The Caregiver being referred is not the primary carer
- If the purpose of the admission is a formal parenting assessment
- Where the admission is being sought for sleep and settling purposes only.

If on assessment, the caregiver presents a significant risk to themselves, their infant or other infants on the ward, an admission to the Adult Acute Unit (AAU) may be required prior to a PIU admission.

### Referrals

For all external referrals please complete the PIU [referral form](#) and email/fax to triage.

PIU operates a waitlist function to allow for both crisis and planned admissions. Priority of access will be determined based on clinical need and assessment of risk. Referrals are discussed regularly, and PIU will communicate with referrers to advise of progress of referral once received.

### Visiting Hours

- Partners are welcome to participate in baby care and therapeutic groups, and overnight arrangements may be discussed with the team during your admission.
- All other visitors and siblings are welcome between 2pm and 7pm Monday to Friday allowing for morning groups/programs to run effectively.  
On weekends there is more flexibility with visiting hours.