

Module 7: Postnatal Period

In March 2016, bump2babe sent a comprehensive survey to the 19 maternity hospitals/units and 2 midwifery-led units in Ireland. Responses were returned between March 2016 and May 2017 and can be found on the website www.bump2babe.ie. Private Midwives completed the same survey documents in May 2017 and we have presented them here.

The information provided here is as was provided to us Private Midwives but please check with your caregiver to see if there have been any recent changes to services, policies or practices.

Blank spaces indicate no information was provided.

	County	
	Unit or hospital name	Private Midwives Ireland
Person completing the survey	Name	Liz Halliday
	Title	Deputy Head of Midwifery
	Contact details and working hours (in case we need to contact you for clarification)	liz@privatemidwives.com
For how long after the birth do women have access to care or services following discharge?	For queries	No time limit
	For services	6 weeks
	How does she access services?	Phone call, text or email
Is there an emergency 24-hour service that women can avail of?	Yes/No	Yes
	If yes, please give details including how long after birth it is available	Until the end of the care package chosen by the woman (option of up to 6 weeks)
For how long after the birth do babies have access to care or services following discharge?	For queries	No time limit
	For services	6 weeks
	How do parents access services?	Phone call, text or email
Is there an emergency 24-hour service for babies?	Yes/No	
	If yes, please give details including how long after birth it is available	Yes Until the end of the care package chosen by the woman (option of up to 6 weeks)
	After discharge, what opportunities are there for mothers who wish to debrief their labour, birth and postnatal experience?	No time limit

Is there a drop-in breastfeeding / infant feeding support service that women can avail of?	Yes/No	No
	If yes, please give details	
	Location for 6-week check-up for women	G.P.
	Location for check-ups for babies	G.P.
	How are women referred to their public health nurse (PHN)?	Discharge summary given to Public health nurse and DPHN notified of birth
	How (and under what circumstances) are women referred to their GP immediately after discharge? What information is provided to the GP?	Discharge summary sent to G.P. from midwife including date, time and mode of birth. Baby's birth weight and Apgar scores. Any perineal trauma, mental health summary. Any concerns over mother or baby.
	Where the service is available, how are women referred for early transfer home or any other service for postnatal care?	
	How is maternal / paternal satisfaction measured?	Phone call to every client post discharge, verbal survey completed.
	Procedure for a family to make a complaint and any time limits that apply (please include how this is communicated to families)	No time limit. Complaint brochures included in every maternity pack, and their attention is drawn to same. Client may also call head office to make a complaint.