

Basic Expectations for Obstetrical Care and Delivery at Mercy Hospital

1. Dr. Van Kirk delivers his own patients during regular office hours and when he is on call. When Dr. Van Kirk is out of the office or it is after hours, his patients are cared for by our group of on-call doctors, consisting of Doctors Pena, Serr, Skipitis, Keurentjes and Williams. Seeing Dr. Van Kirk for prenatal care means being cared for by our on-call physicians if the need arises.
 2. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8am-5pm and Friday 8am-12pm.
 3. Our office collects an OB deposit during the first trimester if your insurance does not cover 100% of your pregnancy. Your OB deposit is not refundable until after delivery or all charges are properly addressed by insurance.
 4. All of our deliveries occur at Mercy Hospital in the Labor and Delivery unit.
 5. The placement of an IV and fetal monitoring on Labor and Delivery during the labor and delivery process is the standard of care and is an expectation.
 6. Children under 16 years old are not permitted in the delivery room for the delivery. The hospital's policy is for no more than two other people besides you in the room for delivery.
 7. It is important to have your normal labs done in a timely fashion. The standard set of prenatal labs should be done after your first prenatal appointment in the office. Your diabetes screening glucose test should be done between 24-28 weeks in the pregnancy. Rhogam injections should be done for patients with rH negative blood types, such as A-, B-, and O-, at approximately 28 weeks.
 8. Normally ultrasounds are done at your first visit with Dr. Van Kirk to determine your due date, around 20-23 weeks to look at the anatomy of the baby (and usually the sex of the baby can be determined), and around 30-33 weeks to check the growth of the baby.
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