

Dr Gareth Weston

M.B.B.S. M.P.H. Ph.D. FRANZCOG CREI

Gynaecology, Infertility, Obstetrics

Provider: 218497TF ABN: 41068410773

17 Erin Street
Richmond VIC 3121

Tel: 03 9429 9915
Fax: 03 9427 8295

Surgery Confirmation and Cost Information – insured Patients

This letter confirms that a theatre booking has been made for you with Dr Gareth Weston as a Privately insured patient.

Important Requirement for Your Scheduled Surgery

Please be advised that all pre-operative requirements must be completed prior to your scheduled procedure.

This includes returning your signed informed consent, completing all necessary pre-admission documentation, and ensuring full payment of all applicable fees.

If these requirements are not met within the specified time frames, your surgery will not proceed and will be cancelled or postponed.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Estimate of Medical Costs

As a courtesy to our patients, we provide an estimate of the medical costs you may need to pay for your in-hospital or day surgery procedure.

We strongly recommend discussing these costs with your health fund to ensure you understand what will be covered and what you will need to pay out of pocket.

Please note:

This is an estimate only and covers Dr Weston's fees only.

It does not include fees for services from other doctors (e.g. anaesthetists, radiologists, pathologists), or hospital-related costs (e.g. accommodation, pharmacy, physiotherapy).

Surgery Details

- **Date:** 00/00/00
- **Location:** Epworth Hospital Richmond
- **Address:** 89 Bridge Road, Richmond 3121
- **Procedure:**

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Admission & Pre-Op Instructions

- Please complete your admission forms online at:
www.epworth.org.au/patientadmissions.
- information for your admission can be found at: <https://www.epworth.org.au/for-patients/planning-for-your-care/patient-admission>

You will receive your admission time and fasting instructions the day before surgery via phone, SMS, or email.

Please confirm your attendance by replying to the message.

Post-Operative Appointment

Please call (03) 9429 9915 to book your post-operative appointment via HotDoc.

Appointments must be made in advance. If not booked early, the next available appointment may be 4–6 weeks later.

Parking Information

On street parking around the Epworth Hospital is available for a standard Council Fee.

Parking for Epworth is available on-site. Enter Via Bridge Road at the Traffic lights. FEES APPLY

Informed Financial Consent for Surgery

There are four separate medical fees involved. Each fee must be paid directly to the individual doctor or provider.

Our office does not manage or provide estimates for other practitioners.

For more information relating to costs associated with surgery, please head to the below website;

<https://www.health.gov.au/topics/private-health-insurance/what-private-health-insurance-covers/out-of-pocket-costs>

1. Surgeon Fee – Dr Gareth Weston

Your surgical invoice is attached.

Payment in full is required **prior to your procedure.**

A receipt will be provided upon confirmation of payment.

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You may be eligible to claim a portion—or the full amount—back from **Medicare and your private health fund**, depending on your level of cover.

Any amount **not reimbursed** by your health fund is considered an **out-of-pocket expense**, also known as a **gap payment**.

Failure to pay by 4:00 PM two business days prior may result in cancellation of your procedure.

Payment Details:

Bank: Westpac

Name: Gareth Charles Weston

BSB: 033169

Account: 331041

Reference: Use your Surname and Invoice Number

!! Email payment confirmation to: reception@drgarethweston.com.au

2. Hospital Fee

This covers accommodation and hospital facility use (e.g. operating theatre, catering).

Fees vary depending on services used. The hospital will contact you regarding payment.

You may still be responsible for any excess, co-payments, or exclusions under your level of insurance.

3. Anaesthetist Fee

You will be contacted 1–2 days before surgery with details.

Expected cost: \$400–\$700, depending on your procedure.

Medicare rebates may apply. Please liaise directly with the anaesthetist's office.

4. Assistant Surgeon Fee

Dr Weston will have a surgical assistant present.

Their office will contact you separately for payment.

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****Additional Costs**

You may receive invoices for external pathology services, including:

Genetic Testing

Histopathology

Cervical Screening (ThinPrep)

Some of these services are not covered by Medicare, and you will be billed directly. Please contact the pathology provider for any billing questions.

Patient Agreement

**Please read, sign, and return this document before your surgery to:
reception@drgarethweston.com.au**

By signing below, I confirm that:

I understand I am booked for a procedure with Dr Weston as a Privately insured patient.

I have been provided a breakdown of the fees involved and accept responsibility for payment should my health fund not cover any costs associated.

I understand each provider involved will bill separately, and these are my responsibility.

I agree that failure to pay fees may result in the debt being referred to a collection agency.

I understand that without a valid GP referral, I will not receive a Medicare rebate.

I accept responsibility for booking my own post-operative appointment.

I understand that if my scheduled surgery is cancelled with less than **48 hours' notice**, a **cancellation fee of \$250** will apply and must be paid prior to further surgery being booked.

Name: Ms Tylah Van Roy
17 Landsborough
05/02/98

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Signature:.....

Date:.....

Gynaecology Surgery – Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do I need to fast before surgery?**

Yes. You will be given fasting instructions by the hospital. This usually means **no food for at least 6 hours** before surgery and **clear fluids only up to 2 hours prior**, unless advised otherwise.

- **Can I take my regular medications?**

Most regular medications can be taken, but **some may need to be stopped or adjusted**, particularly blood thinners, diabetes medications, or supplements. Please follow the instructions provided by your doctor or the hospital.

- **Can I have surgery if I have my period?**

In most cases, **yes**. Having your period does not usually prevent gynaecological surgery. If you are experiencing very heavy bleeding, please notify the clinic.

- **What type of anaesthetic will I have?**

Most gynaecological procedures are performed under **general anaesthetic**. Your Anaesthetist will discuss this with you on the day of surgery.

- **Will I go home the same day?**

Many procedures are performed as **day surgery**, allowing you to go home the same day. Some patients may require an overnight stay depending on the procedure and recovery.

- **Will I have pain after surgery?**

Some discomfort is normal. This may include:

- Lower abdominal pain or cramping
- Shoulder tip pain (after laparoscopy)
- Mild vaginal bleeding

Pain is usually manageable with prescribed or over-the-counter pain relief.

- **How long is the recovery?**

Recovery varies depending on the procedure: Everyone is different.

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- Light activities: **within a few days**
- Return to work: **3–7 days** (longer for physical work)
- Full recovery: **1–2 weeks or as advised**
- Feeling tired for several days after surgery is common.

- **Will I have bleeding after surgery?**

Light vaginal bleeding or spotting is normal for several days. **Heavy bleeding** (soaking pads hourly) is not normal and should be reported.

- **When can I drive?**

You must not drive for **24 hours after anaesthetic** and only once you feel comfortable and are no longer taking strong pain medication.

- **When can I resume exercise or sexual intercourse?**

Light activity is encouraged ASAP after surgery

Strenuous exercise, swimming, and sexual intercourse are usually avoided for **1–2 weeks**, unless advised otherwise by your doctor.

- **Are there risks?**

All surgery carries some risk. These may include bleeding, infection, injury to surrounding organs, or anaesthetic-related risks. Dr Weston will discuss risks specific to your procedure.

When should I contact the clinic or seek medical attention?

Please contact us or seek urgent care if you experience:

- Fever or chills
- Increasing pain not relieved by medication
- Heavy vaginal bleeding
- Redness, swelling, or discharge from wounds
- Persistent nausea or vomiting

- **Do I need a follow-up appointment?**

In most cases, a follow-up appointment will be arranged. You will be advised if and when this is required.