



More Support for Women's Health

South
Australian
Labor

For the
Future

More Support for Women's Health

INVESTMENT: \$33 million

Women experience health, illness, and health care differently to men. They make up half of our population, yet their specialist health needs have historically been underfunded, undervalued or inaccessible.

Issues with endometriosis are common for girls and women, which can be incredibly painful, and can even result in hospitalisation. It can have a debilitating effect on all areas of women's lives - their work, their education, their physical and mental health – yet for too long, women have suffered in silence.

Labor has a proud record in health, and already the Albanese Labor Government has established two Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Clinics in South Australia and cheaper and more accessible prescriptions through the PBS.

At a state level, Labor has delivered practical, frontline improvements for women. We're building a bigger and better new Women's and Children's Hospital, with increased capacity and a co-located women's Intensive Care Unit.

We have established a first-of-its-kind Virtual Women's Assessment Service, providing urgent and compassionate gynaecological and early pregnancy loss assessments from experienced midwives.

South Australian women can now access treatment for uncomplicated UTIs and resupplies of oral contraceptives directly through their local pharmacy, reducing barriers to care.

We've improved women's health screenings with a new BreastScreen SA HQ in the CBD, the Mount Barker BreastScreen SA Clinic becoming



permanent, and building a new BreastScreen site at Modbury. We've added breast density reporting as standard and reopened ShineSA in the North for sexual and cervical cancer screening.

We will double down on improving accessibility to women's health support.

The Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a commitment to transform how women across our state access primary care, fertility support and reproductive health.



Peter Malinauskas MP
Premier for South Australia



LABOR'S PLAN TO

1 Establish five Women's Health Clinics

2 Launch South Australia's first ever Virtual Pelvic Pain Clinic

3 Improve pain management for IUD procedures

4 Launch a major public health campaign for endometriosis

5 Introduce a publicly funded IVF rebate scheme for the first time in South Australia



Women's Health Clinics

Without proper health advice, South Australian women are left in ongoing pain and discomfort, awaiting a new treatment plan or medication.

Too often, they are competing with both the national challenge in accessing a GP appointment, as well as the even more difficult challenge of securing an appointment with a GP that specialises in women's health.

That's why the Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a \$10 million commitment over four years to fund five GP clinics to establish specialised Women's Health Clinics to offer services including:

- Endometriosis and pelvic pain management
- Pregnancy and fertility support
- More bulk-billed contraceptive implant services
- Menopause care
- Preventive health checks

While many GP clinics already provide these services, these dedicated clinics will enable specialisation and support through longer, bulk-billed appointments.

There will be three metropolitan clinics located in northern Adelaide, southern Adelaide, and central Adelaide, and two sites in the regions.

There will be a competitive process launched to select the practices to provide these clinics and offer free women's health services within the next year.



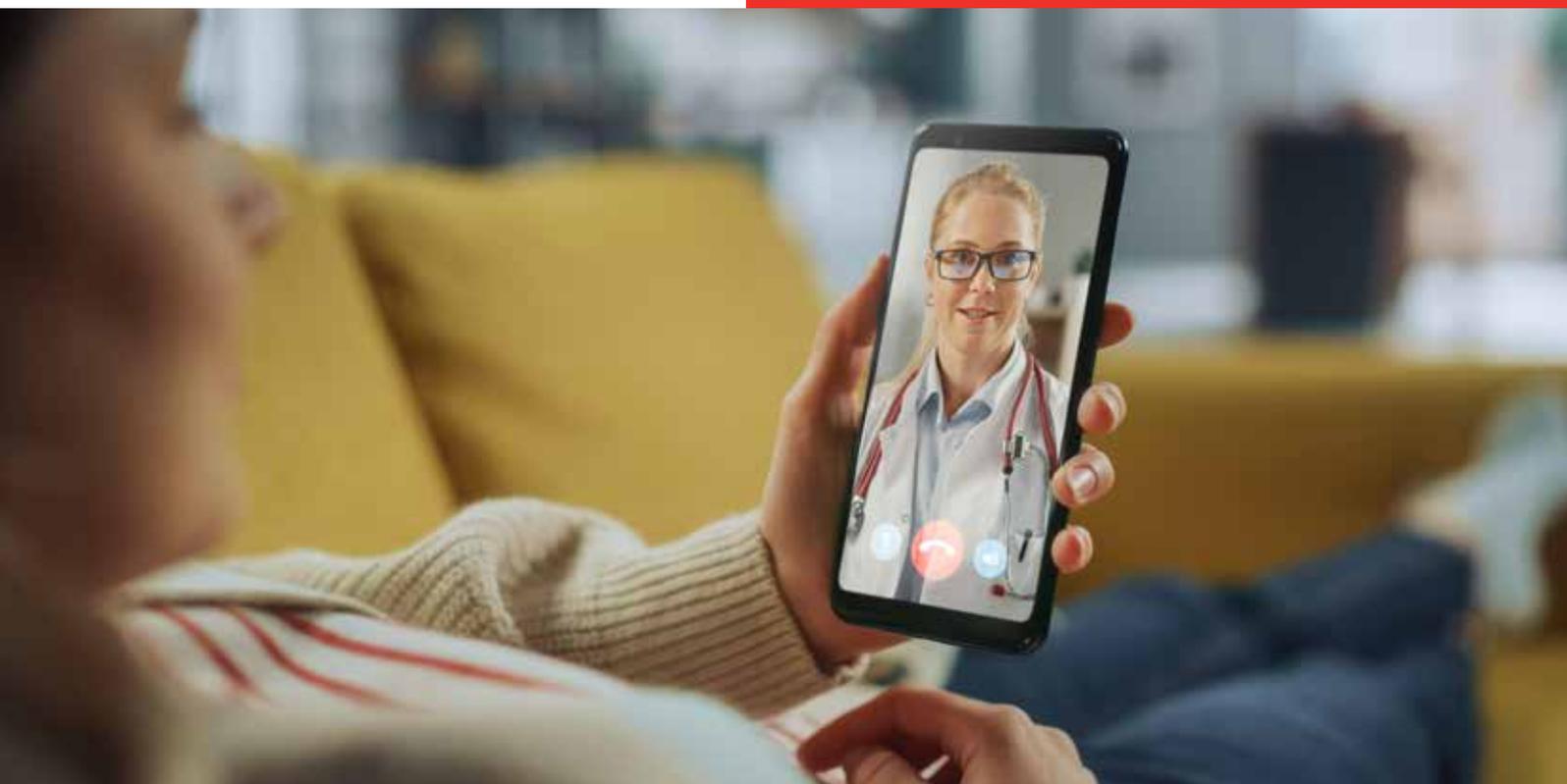
Establish South Australia's first ever Virtual Pelvic Pain Clinic

We will establish South Australia's first ever Virtual Pelvic Pain Clinic, delivering a dedicated service to care for women experiencing pelvic pain, endometriosis and gynaecology support.

Operated by the Women's and Children's Hospital, the nurse-led service will provide timely expert and care navigation advice to ensure women are supported earlier, more consistently and from the comfort of their own home.

Building on the Women's and Children's Hospital's proven virtual care models, including the Virtual Women's Assessment Service and Child and Adolescent Virtual Urgent Care Service, this clinic will broaden accessibility and respond to an urgent, unmet need in women's health.

The new Clinic will be led by an expert team of Registered Nurses who have undergone training specifically for pelvic pain and endometriosis.



Launch a major Endometriosis Public Health Campaign

We will deliver a major public health campaign focussed on pelvic pain and endometriosis.

This campaign will lift community awareness, help women recognise when to seek care, and support earlier, more informed conversations with their GP.

This includes funding for the Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia's school in-reach program and combined with funding already secured through the Department for Education, will increase our commitment to the Pelvic Pain Education Program (PPEP Talk) to more than \$430,000 through to 2029.

The campaign will also include the development of GP information kits in partnership with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. These kits will arm GPs with the right knowledge to be able to better help their patients presenting with pelvic pain and endometriosis, including strengthening referral pathways and ensuring women can access the right care sooner.





Improved pain management for IUD Procedures

Complementing this work, public outpatient clinics will begin offering the green whistle (Penthrox) for IUD insertion procedures. We will also work with General Practice and the new Women's Health Clinics to expand the use of the green whistle for IUD insertions across primary care. This reform expands patient choice and acknowledges what women have long said, that IUD insertion can be painful and that pain should be taken seriously.

IUDs are among the most effective and long-acting forms of contraception, yet often the painful procedure is cited as a significant barrier to access.

By improving pain management, we will make this highly effective form of contraception more accessible, and in line with the practice already available via some private providers.



Introduce a publicly-funded IVF rebate scheme for the first time in South Australia

About one in six Australian couples who are trying to fall pregnant are affected by infertility.

The stress and anxiety of trying for months, and sometimes years, without falling pregnant is then exacerbated with the high cost of fertility testing and treatment.

We want to change that and help more South Australians start and grow their families.

That's why we have a plan to make IVF more accessible for those who need it.

Labor will take to the election a commitment to introduce South Australia's first ever fertility rebates to make IVF treatment more affordable for thousands of South Australian women and families.

Our IVF rebate scheme will provide South Australia women and families:

- A \$250 rebate for pre-IVF fertility testing
- A \$2,000 rebate for fertility treatment

In some cases, this will cover almost half the cost of an IVF cycle, with out-of-pocket costs upwards of \$4,000 per treatment.

Eligible women will be able to access a fertility treatment rebate for up to two IVF cycles.

The new rebates will help thousands of South Australian women and families each year with the costs of fertility treatments statewide.

Through an \$18.5 million funding injection over four years, we will establish a scheme that is similar, but more generous to that offered in New South Wales.

The South Australian scheme will be open to a wider cohort of women and families through a higher income threshold and the ability to access more than one cycle.



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