

**Available services:**

	Low-complexity chemotherapy	Fever/Neutropenia	Blood product support	Central line care	Nasogastric tube care	Pathology collection	Other supportive care services**
Albury	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ballarat	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bendigo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Frankston		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geelong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shepparton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Traralgon		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wangaratta		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Warrnambool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\*Commencing in 2022

**\*\*Other supportive care services may include:**

- GCSF/Neulasta administration
- IV antibiotic therapy
- Acute pain management
- Management of acute nausea and vomiting
- Management of mucositis
- Vaccinations
- Management of chicken pox exposure

**What families say:**

“For our family, having access to the Regional Outreach and Shared Care Program has allowed less disruption and more normality to our everyday lives. Having appointments closer to home and even nursing care at home, has meant less travelling, less accommodation costs and overall less stress for our whole family. Most importantly, it has meant less time apart for our family and that is what really matters.”

- Parent of a child with cancer

**Your primary nurse consultant is:**

**Your regional nurse coordinator is:**

# Regional Outreach and Shared Care Program

Do you live or travel outside of metropolitan Melbourne?

Speak to your Oncologist or Nurse Consultant to see if this program is an option for your child and family.

For more information visit: [www.vics.org.au/pics](http://www.vics.org.au/pics)

The Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation financially supports the Regional Outreach and Shared Care Nurse Educator and Nurse Coordinator.



PICS is supported by the Victorian Government



## The Regional Outreach and Shared Care Program

Approximately 30% of the children and adolescents with cancer treated by The Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) and Monash Children's Hospital (MCH) live in regional areas.

The goal of the Regional Outreach and Shared Care Program (ROSCP) is to provide care as close to home as possible when it is safe and appropriate to do so.

The program:

- provides education and training to staff at regional centres who care for children and adolescents with cancer
- facilitates regional care coordination through a formal shared care model with the RCH and MCH

The program enables shared care between your primary treating hospital and the regional centre closest to where you live.

### Can my child have shared care?

Your oncologist and/or your Nurse Consultant will make this decision by taking into consideration the following:

- Your place of residence
- Your child's diagnosis
- Treatment protocol
- End of treatment surveillance/follow-up requirements

### ROSCP shared care centres



### Contact details

#### Shared care partner paediatric wards by region:

Albury Wodonga Health	(02) 6058 4404
Ballarat Health Service	(03) 5320 4253
Bendigo Health	(03) 5454 7802
Peninsula Health Frankston	(03) 9784 7460
University Hospital Geelong	(03) 4215 1661
Goulburn Valley Health Shepparton	(03) 5832 2660
Latrobe Regional Hospital Traralgon	(03) 5173 8145
Northeast Health Wangaratta	(03) 5722 5341
South West Healthcare Warrnambool	(03) 5564 4280

### When should I call my local hospital?

Remember, if your child is unwell and you are seeking advice, **please call your team in the children's cancer centre first**, on the number you were provided. However, there may be many reasons you may want to call your local hospital. They may include:

- To organise a tour for my child to meet the staff in the department to orientate to the ward and feel more comfortable with the surroundings (optional).
- When advised after calling your oncology treating team, to alert your regional health service that you need to present to the emergency department for review.

### Regional outreach clinics

Clinics take place at some regional centres across Victoria throughout the year. They are run by one of the treating oncologists and oncology nurse consultants. The months listed below are approximate and may vary by year.

<b>Albury</b>	February, May, August, November
<b>Ballarat</b>	May, November
<b>Bendigo</b>	May, November
<b>Geelong</b>	February, April, June, August, October, December
<b>Shepparton</b>	May, November
<b>Warrnambool</b>	July

### Telehealth

Regional families often need to travel long distances to attend appointments for a number of years.

Telehealth appointments may be available for families living in regional areas or interstate, whose children are medically suitable. This is a video link between your oncologist at RCH or MCH, you and your child, with your child's GP or paediatrician.

Please ask your Oncologist if your child can have telehealth appointments.