

Frequently Asked Questions

When is Dr. Van Kirk On-Call?

Dr. Van Kirk shares call with Doctors Oliva, Pena, Serr, Skipitis, Keurentjes, and Williams. All are board certified OB/GYN's. During normal business hours, all of the physicians take care of and deliver their own patients. When the offices are closed, one of the doctors is on call. After hours, if you call the office or arrive at Mercy Hospital for care, you will be routed to the doctor on call.

Is Dr. Van Kirk a Primary Care Doctor?

Dr. Van Kirk does well-woman care, such as annual exams. Women with general medical problems such as diabetes, asthma, or high blood pressure are better served by their own family practice or internal medicine doctors in town.

What Medications Can I Take When I'm Pregnant?

Many medications are fine, but a few are not. We have a list of approved over-the-counter medications available at the front desk or on our website.

Where Does Dr. Van Kirk Do Surgery?

Dr. Van Kirk does most of his gynecologic (non-pregnant) surgery at Mercy Hospital on Mondays, but he will perform surgery at Patient's Hospital or Shasta Regional Medical Center if necessary. All obstetric care (such as deliveries and C-sections) is done at Mercy.

Where Does Dr. Van Kirk Deliver Babies?

Mercy Hospital is the only hospital with a Labor & Delivery unit between Mt. Shasta and Red Bluff. Therefore, Dr. Van Kirk's patients deliver at Mercy.

Does Dr. Van Kirk Deliver Babies Vaginally After C-Sections (VBAC)?

No. Mercy Hospital policy does not allow VBACs.

Can I Take Pictures or Video During My Office Visit?

Unfortunately, Dr. Van Kirk's medical malpractice carrier does not allow video or picture taking in the office at any time. Similarly, at Mercy Hospital there is no video or picture taking during the actual birth.