



New Maternal and Fetal Monitoring Equipment for RHW Delivery Suites

New technology in fetal monitoring now available to all Mother's giving birth in the Delivery Suite at the Royal Hospital for Women

New mobile fetal and maternal monitoring systems will be available to all Delivery Suite patients from this December at the Royal Hospital for Women.

The equipment will enable all women that come through the department to remain mobile, whilst they are being monitored either intermittently or continuously.

The new equipment (known as a telemetry) integrates monitoring of maternal blood pressure and pulse rate with measurement of fetal heart rate and uterine activity.

The telemetry equipment will enable expectant mothers in labour to move around their room and beyond, and this state-of-the-art equipment is also waterproof. The equipment can be used from the onset of contractions through to the final stages of labour and birth.

Similar technology has been used



previously in the delivery suites, however the new equipment will provide the added benefit of a stronger and more consistent signal back to the monitoring base - and it will be available to all patients.

This equipment will continue to place the Royal Hospital for Women as a leader in maternal and fetal care. In the month of October 2007, 394 babies were born at the Royal, and with the birth rate on the increase, this new technology will only continue to better serve the community.

"It is a positive step forward in increasing maternal satisfaction - keeping women upright and mobile, whilst being able to monitor the baby continuously" said Jan White, Nurse Manager of Birthing Services.

