

PANDA will keep Busselton babies safe and warm

Busselton babies will be kept safer and warmer thanks to the arrival of three PANDA baby warmers.

The cot-like warmers will soon be put to use at Busselton Hospital for trialling before being transferred to Busselton Health Campus once the new maternity unit opens.

The warmers are used in hospitals to support the body temperature of tiny infants. The devices also regulate airflow and monitor vital signs.

The cots enable clinicians to administer oxygen and suction, along with a warming function to help prevent hypothermia. Additional features such as an X-ray tray and inbuilt scales greatly reduce how frequently a baby needs to be handled, thus minimising stress.

WA Country Health Service South West Operations Manager Jeremy Higgins said the PANDA baby warmers had been used in Bunbury for the last year and local communities would benefit from these additional machines.

“Maternity staff at Bunbury Hospital have had access to these advanced cots for the past year,” he said.

“I am delighted that these state-of-the-art baby warmers have also arrived in Busselton enabling midwives and doctors to continue to deliver high quality and safe care to newborn babies.”

The Busselton Health Campus is part of the State Government’s bigger picture in health. To find out more visit <http://getthebiggerpicture.health.wa.gov.au>

Construction is on schedule, on budget and on target for practical completion in late 2014. Training and orientation of staff to the new site will follow immediately in readiness for transitioning of the services to the new facility.

Between 2008 and 2018, WA Health is investing more than \$7 billion in building new hospitals and improving existing health facilities, with support from the Commonwealth Government and other partners.

These projects will boost and strengthen healthcare closer to where people live, now and into the future.

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