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DELIVERING SAFER OUTCOMES FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES

VMIA is proud to deliver a \$16 million state-wide initiative to improve maternal care and outcomes for Victorian mothers and babies.

The *Incentivising Better Patient Safety* program gives public hospitals a refund on obstetric insurance premiums when staff complete advanced training in key risk areas.

The program encourages multidisciplinary teams to enhance their training in advanced neonatal resuscitation, fetal surveillance and simulated emergency scenarios – key areas of risk in the birth suite.

About 10 per cent of newborn babies in Victoria require help to begin breathing, with around one per cent needing extensive resuscitation and neonatal specialist support.

To give newborns the best chance of survival in complex cases and improve the quality of care to all mothers across the state, the program provides a rebate to health services for proven risk mitigations, and an incentive to health services to implement and maintain best practice maternity education.

Similar training has contributed to a 64 per cent drop in Victorian maternity claims since 2003. The program is aiming to deliver even better patient outcomes by targeting known risk areas.

The Incentivising Better Patient Safety program was developed by the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA) in consultation with Safer Care Victoria and the health sector. It will be implemented from 1 July 2018.

Quotes attributable to VMIA Chief Executive Officer, Colin Radford

“As the state’s insurer, we’re pleased to be working with the health sector to improve patient outcomes, while giving back to public hospitals for their investment in proven risk prevention initiatives.”

Quotes attributable to Safer Care Victoria Chief Executive Officer, Euan Wallace

“Even high performing hospitals have unexpected emergencies in the birth suite from time to time. This training helps doctors and midwives better prepare for such emergencies and respond more quickly and effectively.”

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