

May 1, 2014

## International Midwife's Day at Campbelltown Hospital

A pair of gloves, a plastic sheet, gauze and soap can be some of the basic items needed for the safe delivery of a baby. They're also some of the items that make up a 'birthing kit' which Campbelltown Hospital's midwives will be assembling to mark International Day of the Midwife, on May 5.

Campbelltown Hospital and Campbelltown Ladies Golf Club have donated funds for 400 birthing kits from the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia.

The kits provide supplies to help improve conditions for women who give birth at home in developing countries.

Campbelltown Hospital's Director of Nursing, Anna Chapman, said she was pleased the Hospital was involved in the project, as every woman deserved the right to a clean and safe childbirth.

"Every two minutes a woman in a developing country dies of complications related to pregnancy and childbirth," Ms Chapman said.

"Many mothers and babies die from preventable infections and the provision of a clean 'birthing kit', with training on its use, will provide better outcomes.

"The 'birthing kit' addresses the seven *cleans* needed for a safe delivery, and contains a plastic sheet for the ground, soap, a pair of gloves, a sterile scalpel blade, three cords and five gauze squares.

"These items will be assembled into a small bag on the assembly day and then packed into cartons which are then shipped to their allocated destinations," she said.

Campbelltown and Camden Hospitals General Manager, Lynne Bickerstaff, said she was grateful to the Campbelltown Ladies Golf Club for their support of the project.

### **\*\* Photo Opportunity\*\***

The Assembly day will take place on May 6 (the day after International Day of Midwife) at Campbelltown Hospital, with an opportunity for photos at 1:30pm.