

MEDIA RELEASE

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Staff welcome newborn baby into the world at Oakey Hospital's Emergency Department

The skills of Oakey Hospital staff were tested this month with the unexpected delivery of a newborn baby in the emergency department.

Little Zynard Marsters Young was safely delivered in the hospital's emergency department on Friday 13 May.

Mum, Te Aue Harata Marsters was a few days past her due date when her labour pains started.

"I was at home at 2.45pm when my waters broke," she said. "By 3.15pm I was in the hospital."

Ms Marsters was assessed at her Oakey home by a local GP and Oakey Hospital doctor Dr Garikai Maphosa who determined there wasn't enough time to transport the mother-of-five to the nearest birthing hospital in Toowoomba, 35 kilometres away.

"It all happened so fast," she said.

While Dr Maphosa was conducting the home visit, staff at Oakey Hospital were notified and readied themselves for the delivery.

"As per any obstetric emergency situation, we were in contact with two midwives from Retrieval Services Queensland and a Consultant Obstetrician from Mater Mothers' Hospital via state-of-the-art videoconferencing equipment," Oakey Hospital Director of Nursing Matthew Boyd said.

"We knew that Te was fully dilated and that the safest place for her to deliver her baby was here even though we don't have a maternity service at the Oakey Hospital. All the staff, Te and her partner felt very supported with the experience of Dr John Hall and Dr Maphosa being present and the support from Brisbane."

Mr Boyd praised all the staff for their level-headedness during the delivery, including nurse Emily Bell who had coincidentally only recently completed her midwifery training.

"It was a great example of rural team work being supported by technology from Brisbane," he said.

"Our nursing staff may not have the most amount of experience in obstetrics, but they can always be relied upon in any situation to provide quality and safe care."

"It was a great outcome for Te and her partner Zachary. We wish them, and baby Zynard, all the very best."

Caption: Te Aue Harata Marsters and her partner Zachary welcomed their baby Zynard into the world at the Oakey Hospital's emergency department, supported by nurse Emily Bell and director of nursing Matthew Boyd (right).

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