Baby friendly Gympie Hospital

Gympie Hospital has again received Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI) accreditation by the Australian College of Midwives.

The hospital promotes and supports a family-friendly workplace and is proudly Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI) accredited until 2020 through the college and UNICEF/World Health Organisation.

Gympie Hospital’s Nurse Unit Manager, Women’s and Families, Shaneen Osborne said BFHI was a UNICEF/WHO initiative aimed at enabling facilities to create an environment where breastfeeding is the norm and practices known to promote health and well-being of all babies and their mothers are put into place.

“To be accredited as ‘Baby Friendly’, hospitals must comply with the global standard, ‘Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding’, established by WHO and UNICEF,” Ms Osborne said.

“In a baby friendly hospital like Gympie Hospital, breastfeeding mothers are given consistent, accurate information and support; and we ensure there is space, time and support for breastfeeding mothers who return to work.

“We’re really proud to be able to continue supporting mothers in this way.”

The health service has a good working relationship with the Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) and provides literature to women upon discharge from hospital.

“With this ongoing assistance, a woman can continue to be well-supported in her breastfeeding for the following months and years,” Ms Osborne said.

ENDS

Please note: An interview with a new mum can be arranged on request.

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