

MEDIA RELEASE

Paediatric nurses train for enhanced emergency paediatric care at Toowoomba Hospital

Earlier this year, Toowoomba Hospital Clinical Nurse Educator Vicki Stevens completed the Recognition and Management of the Deteriorating Paediatric Patient (RMDPP) Train the Trainer Program.

The program was provided by the Simulation Training on Resuscitation for Kids team (SToRK). It aims to teach staff to recognise sickness earlier and improve life support skills in the event of an arrest.

Ms Stevens recently shared this knowledge with paediatric staff at Toowoomba Hospital.

“The simulation training looks at caring for a child in a high-pressure situation such as an arrest, and there’s a strong emphasis on teamwork,” Ms Stevens said.

“All the attendees were experienced nurses from Toowoomba Hospital’s Paediatric Unit, and the uptake of information has been very good.”

“We start off by going over observation sheets which are used state-wide to help us recognise patients who are deteriorating, then we move through a number of skill stations.”

“First our paediatrician takes participants through the ‘airway and breathing’ skill station, where we use mannequins to run through bag-mask ventilation techniques.

“Then we go through the circulation skill station where we look at the drugs and fluids we may need to give, followed by the defibrillation skill station.”

The second half of the day was dedicated to teamwork scenarios.

“It’s all about working as a team, because we’re all here for the same reason, which is caring for that little child that we’re looking after,” Ms Stevens said.

“So we look at working as a team, with an emphasis on being multi-disciplinary, working together for the same good outcomes.”

Amy Allington, Simulation Co-ordinator for SToRK at the Royal Children’s Hospital (RCH) in Brisbane, was on hand to help out with the workshop.

“We did a train-the-trainer course here in Toowoomba with Vicki earlier in the year, and later on Vicki did the RMDPP course at RCH,” Ms Allington said.

“This is the first course that Vicki is running for Toowoomba paediatric staff so I’ve come up today to give her a hand.

“This type of training is vital and we’ve found the feedback from today has been very positive, the nurses have been really engaged, and that’s been reflected where we’ve done courses right through the state.”

Photo Caption:

Chamanthi Nanayakkara, Amy Allington (RCH Brisbane), Helen Pascoe, Jeff Reeves, Ruth Berry, Margie Priest, Vicki Stevens, Margaret Haydock and Nicki Ackland at the SToRK training course at Toowoomba Hospital.

Ends

MEDIA: Contact Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team 4699 8725, 0448 996 296 or DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au