

Becoming a Midwife at Armidale Hospital

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Midwives at Armidale work to provide care to women experiencing normal pregnancy and birth in collaboration with obstetricians when required.

ARMIDALE RURAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL

<http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/HavingABaby/Pages/Armidale%20Hospital.aspx>

Armidale Rural Referral Hospital is an 86 bed teaching hospital servicing Armidale and surrounding areas. Services provided include General Medicine and Surgery, Paediatrics, Anaesthetics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Orthopaedics, Intensive Care, Psychiatry, and Ophthalmology. Ancillary services available in Armidale include radiology, pathology, occupational and speech therapy, social work, physiotherapy and pharmacy.

The Maternity service offers care for women throughout pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period, with close links to child and Family Health Services including a community-based Aboriginal Mothers' and Babies' service. The Unit has 11 beds and 2 birthing rooms, plus a Special Care Nursery.

The model of service delivery includes specialist obstetricians, GP obstetricians, paediatricians and midwives who work collaboratively to provide a comprehensive service. Armidale is also a referral centre for surrounding areas and has close links with JHH as the tertiary centre within the HNE LHD tiered maternity network.

Midwives at Armidale work autonomously to provide care to women experiencing normal pregnancy and birth in

collaboration with obstetricians and the wider multidisciplinary team.

There is a strong focus on normal birth and woman-centred care. Midwives work closely with women and their families in order to facilitate their journey through pregnancy, birth and beyond. For low risk women there is the option to access antenatal care through a hospital based midwives clinic.

Midwifery students at Armidale have opportunity to gain experience across the whole continuum of care throughout a woman's pregnancy labour/birth and postnatal journey. Students work with midwives in a supportive learning environment. As part of a rotational program Armidale students will also gain experience in at least one other facility during the course.

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