



Maternity in the OT: Bringing Baby EarthSIDE



Nepean Blue Mountains
Local Health District

Health

Authors: Lauren Scaroni and James Thompson. Operating Theatres. Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital.

“The preferences really helped me bond with baby”

“I felt that I had some control over the situation, which made me feel more relaxed”

“The Caesarean Section felt less like a operation, more like a birth”

“The nurses had a personal approach”

“My daughter’s birth felt a lot less clinical, not as daunting”

“The preferences made me feel safe and valued”



AIM

To create a standardised communication method to ensure a women-centered approach within the Operating Theatre. To address the emotional, psychological and physical needs of the mother, baby and support person with the goal of creating a positive birth experience.

METHOD

The Essentials of Care framework was utilised to create the ‘Bringing Baby EarthSIDE’ resource which is used in the Operating Theatres as a communication tool for mothers to formalise their wishes and preferences to the surgical team.

RESULTS

- Qualitative evidence of enhanced service delivery, maternal satisfaction and women centred care.
- Empowering women to participate in their own healthcare with 100% of women choosing to use the preference sheet.
- Effective and efficient team communication was achieved by providing a physical prompt for patient handover.
- Significant increase in delayed cord clamping; with 75% of respondents choosing the option.

CONCLUSION

The maternity in the OT project, following successful implementation and integration, has been successful in evolving the care of caesarean patients through creating positive birth experiences and facilitating team communication.

