Indonesian Nurses Benefit from Territory Experience

A group of 19 Indonesian nurses has begun a vocational development program in Darwin to upgrade their skills to Australian standards.

The scholarships were a gift to the Indonesian Government from the Territory Chief Minister Clare Martin on the 60th anniversary of Indonesian independence.

The Health Minister Peter Toyne said the scholarships represent the Territory’s efforts to build stronger ties with the Indonesian nation.

The Health Department’s Principal Nursing Adviser Greg Rickard officially welcomed the group to Darwin today.

Dr Toyne said the nurses were all graduates from the University of Indonesia and all had at least a year’s clinical experience.

“The scholarships will allow these nurses to apply their qualifications to the Australian health service and enable them to take up leadership roles later in their careers”, Dr Toyne said.

“The skills these nurses attain will bring great benefit to their home country. I’m pleased the Territory is able to offer such assistance and training.”

The scholarships allow for a six-month education program through Charles Darwin University and 18 months of supervised clinical experience at Royal Darwin Hospital and Alice Springs Hospital.

The nurses are currently undergoing professional development programs and English courses to prepare them for their entry into the hospital system.

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