

# HICA Fact Sheet

## Having a Baby!



Clients often ask us how much it costs to have a baby in a private hospital...So here's the answer. When an expectant Mum is admitted to a Private Hospital to deliver a baby, the services she can expect to be billed for are:

Accommodation  
Labour Ward /Delivery Suite Fee  
Obstetrician

In the case of a caesarean delivery, there is typically an additional theatre fee.

### Accommodation Costs

Shared Room - \$700/day approx.  
Private Room - \$850/day approx.

### Days in hospital

Normal delivery - typically 2-3 days  
Caesarean delivery - typically 4-5 days

Be aware that some private hospitals require payment for accommodation up front on admission.



### Labour Ward /Delivery Suite Fees

Typically, the delivery suite or labour ward fee for a private hospital is \$1000 (approx) and you can expect that a caesarean delivery will incur additional expense. Example 1 Cabrini Private Hospital - \$800 to 1000 labour ward cost **or** \$1200 for caesarean. Example 2 Freemasons Private Hospital - \$1000-1200 labour ward fee **or** \$1300 caesarean delivery.

In some instances the private hospitals will charge a flat fee for a delivery, whether a normal birth in a delivery suite or a caesarean delivery requiring theatre. Eg St Vincents Private Hospital - \$1800 delivery suite or operating theatre cost for delivery.

### Obstetrician Costs

Typically, an obstetrician's fee for a delivery is between \$2500 - \$3400. The Medicare Benefits Schedule Fee for the management of labour and delivery by any means (including Caesarean section) including post-partum care for 5 days is \$443.60, of which, a Medicare benefit of \$385.00 is payable.

An uninsured woman is admitted into the labour ward of a Metropolitan Private Hospital in a shared room. If the birth is normal, without complications and both Mother and Baby are well after the delivery, the costs will approximately:

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Accommodation (4 days @ \$700/day approx.)	\$ 2800
Delivery Suite Costs	\$ 1000
Obstetrician fee	\$ 2500
Total	\$ 6300

These costs are likely to be the minimum.

### Twins

For a single birth, only the mother is admitted as a patient - so the Baby is accommodated for no cost. However, where twins are born, one of the twins will be admitted as a patient and will incur an accommodation cost of around \$ 700 per day - taking the total accommodation cost for Mother and Babes to \$ 1400 per day.

This would increase the total cost in Example 1 (above) to \$ 9100, where a baby is unwell following the birth, and requires hospital care, the Baby will be admitted as a patient and will incur an accommodation charge plus additional charges for other hospital services - the same as a "normal" patient would expect.

If twins were born and both were unwell and admitted for 10 additional days, the cost in Example 1 would increase to \$19,660.

