

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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Partially
Confidential

I suffered major birth trauma at _____ hospital in 2013 with my first born daughter, I went in to be induced at 41 weeks, on the morning I arrived I got set up in my room and had the balloon method, after only a few hours I started having painful constrictions to the point I was on all fours and couldn't stand up, I then called for the nurse because I needed pain relief and I was given Panadol and told there was no way I was already in labour as this normally takes minimum 12 hours to start working. Hours and hours go by and my pains getting worse they finally caved and gave me some decent pain relief because I couldn't sleep or eat and was an absolute mess. 1:30am and my monitors start going off!

My babies heart rate was dropping so they called a doctor in to check the monitors, the doctor came in and looked at my monitors she was also wearing high heels and got tangled in my iv line I then told her it was tangled on her heel with that she walked out and pulled my iv straight out of my arm and kept walking even though I was calling out to her! The nurse came in and put a new line in my arm and cleaned up the one that was ripped out. Then I was told to get some rest and everything was okay about 10 minutes later my monitors are going again and babies heart is dropping, about 3 nurses and the doctor come in and get me to roll over on my side and start rubbing my belly to get babies heart going again. It worked so I was told to do this everytime the monitor went off so I did. Around 3:30am a nurse brought me in some wash and told me when I was ready to have a shower and wash with this stuff to prep me because I was having a C-section that morning. That was a relief.

Come 7am that morning a doctor comes in to see me and inform me that I was unable to have a C-section because they had not tried ever Avenue to get my baby to come naturally and I would be taken up to the birthing suite to break my waters and try to get me dilated, so I called my mum hysterical because I hadn't slept all night my babies heart rate was continuously dropping and now they are forcing me to have my waters broken in order for me to have a C-section! This was a like a nightmare. I finally get taken to the birthing unit thinking this is it, it will all be over soon and I will have my baby in my arms! Well I was wrong, I was given medication in a drip to force my body to have strong contractions and was checked every few hours to see if I was dilating.

Hours go by and I was on the highest amount of medication they could give me I was screaming in pain to the point the gas and air had stop working for pain and no progression with dilating at all I was still only 2cm, I then had a doctor come in and clear my mum out of the room I asked why and they said they were just going to check to see if I had dilated anymore so I said okay, before I knew it they held my legs over my head and tore my cervix open by hand to get a hook in and break my waters! At this stage I screamed for my mum who was watching behind the closed door, I have never ever felt pain like this before. They broke my waters and left me to see if any progress was going to happen... I remember telling the nurse I felt like I had to push and she said "if you push you are going to kill your baby" because I wasn't dilated enough! I went on for hours and hours until I couldn't take it anymore and begged for an epidural because I hadn't slept in 2 days and I just wanted to rest! I got the epidural and remember finally being out of pain enough to close my eyes, a few minutes go by and a doctors comes rushing in and wakes me saying the trace they had in my babies head was no longer picking up her heartbeat and I was being rushed in for an emergency C-section. I was in and out of consciousness the entire C-section and literally told my mum at one point I was sorry because I thought I was going to dye. To this day I struggle with anxiety and ptsd and I also have a damaged cervix and can never have a natural birth because of the trauma from my first birth.

After I was discharged I received my paperwork and the class C-section I had was when they expect the mother or baby to die or both.