

Submission
No 206

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Mrs Tahlia Giles

Date Received: 2 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

My name is Tahlia, I'm a mother of two from the [redacted] in NSW.

In February of 2021 I was due to give birth to my baby at [redacted] local health service. I had been under obstetric care due to my own health.

The obstetrician caring for me had listened to my concerns regarding reduced movements that had been occurring and decided to induce me at 40+3. The team leader on shift and obstetrician on shift, canceled the induction as they believed there was no need for it. They told me I would end up in an emergency cesarean if I went through with it and tried to send me home.

I advocated for myself and came back the next day to be induced. The next day the obstetrician that cancelled my induction stood outside my door arguing with the NUM about not inducing me. An hour went by and I was highly emotional, when he through the curtain open and said do you still want an induction. I answered yes and so it began.

When I went to birth suite I had the midwife who assisted with trying to scare monger me as my midwife. She very quickly turned the drip up to its highest setting and I was having trouble coping with the contractions being back to back. I was moving around quite a lot trying to become comfortable and the ctg monitoring was having issues with keeping a trace on baby's heart. Nothing was mentioned about a scalp clip until I screamed at the midwife to get her hand out of my vagina. She had made the decision to place a scalp clip without asking consent and when I asked why she did that after yelling for her to get out of me she said well you kept worrying about her heart beat and now you don't have to.

It was a horrible experience. I went on to have a PPH and neither myself or birthing partner were debriefed or offered any kind help/ kind words or resources in regards to the PPH.

I went on to develop PPA and I believe it was a direct result of unresolved birth trauma.