

Submission  
No 633

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 7 August 2023

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Partially  
Confidential

I was 41 + 2 days over and felt I was pressured into having an induction after a check.

I was already 3cm dilated however the nursing staff informed me that the baby would be in danger of losing fluid if I continued to wait-though during the check they said she was doing fine (heart rate, fluid and position was all fine).

The induction was awful, the midwife frequently increased the syntocinon drip without giving me warning or just a heads up of what she planned to do. It was extremely painful. When I finally caught my breathe I asked her to take a break-she was pressing the button every 10 minutes. After I asked her to take a break from increasing the syntocinon, she seemed annoyed and just left the room and the student midwife did all the monitoring. I eventually asked for an epidural and once the procedure was done, it seemed nobody came to check on me. My husband had to go look for a nurse at times when we realised it had been over an hour since somebody came in. I was really hungry but told I couldn't eat with no reason as to why.

I had very swollen feet which ended up looking like balloons but was offered no support or education. I felt ignored-my husband helped elevate my feet.

It seemed after the epidural we were just left on our own with the drip being increased every now and then by a midwife.

I think it was 12 hours in-a dr came in and the midwife was giving a handover about how everything is progressing fine. The dr lifted up my catheter bag and there was clearly blood in my urine. She asked how long had there been blood and the midwives couldn't tell her.

I had to get an emergency caesarean, the whole process was terrifying and I had the shakes and nausea the entire time I was holding [REDACTED] for the first time.

Another thing that was a terrible experience was that in the hospital handout it had instructions for my husband to pack a hospital bag however when we arrived he was told to go home as he wasn't allowed to stay. I was so scared, tired and with a newborn-fresh out of surgery. I really needed his support (mentally and physically)

I was starving and he went and got me a sandwich and water. Fed it to me and then left. I had not eaten a meal since 7am that day.

In the whole experience, I felt that I was being moved along as fast as they could without letting me know the plan. I felt like once I had some control over interventions or asked questions I was left alone or barely monitored. I felt like I had to manage the midwives "feelings" so that I wouldn't be completely left alone.

I also had care provided by a student midwife post partum in the hospital but I wasn't informed or asked if I was ok having a student. I don't have a problem with having a student however I was never asked or even informed. The student had to let me know she was a student.

My post partum care was 90% the student midwife who was amazing but I just wished I was informed of their plan for having the student. At one point her uni assessor come into my "room" and to assess her with her supervising midwife. I felt I wasn't informed and suddenly had people in my "room" just watching me and [REDACTED]

I left the hospital as soon as I could. I just wanted to go home.