

Submission
No 884

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Rebekka Lacey

Date Received: 15 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

My name is Rebekka. I gave birth to a beautiful little boy, on 6th December 2021 at Public hospital. He died 3hours after his birth. I presented at 31+4 with contractions. Despite being my 5th pregnancy and it being high risk due to baby having a medical condition that required multiple in-utero procedures at , I felt that my concerns were not acknowledged.

I was told I was not in labour, despite knowing my body and already giving birth to 4 other children. When my water broke, the seriousness of the situation was finally realised. My husband was not with me during the birth, due to being told only a while earlier, that I was not in labour. He never got to hear Flynn cry and this has, and will forever be a lasting nightmare for me. Not only birthing alone but also my husband missing the only sound our baby ever made.

My baby needed immediate attention and was worked on beside me with little communication given to me about exactly what was happening. He was then taken to the NICU before my husband arrived. Not once were we told that he was being resuscitated again this made us feel extremely anxious. We also recieved very little support once we left the hospital. To the point where the did our post natal review.

My husband and I both now feel stressed and anxious when walking in to hospitals. Our lasting memory will be our baby dying and feeling let down by the professionals.