

Submission  
No 1317

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Mrs Madeline Dean

**Date Received:** 12 August 2023

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Partially  
Confidential

Routine check up at 38 weeks at [redacted] turned into finding out I had preeclampsia

Transferred to [redacted] - advised to have an induction due to risk to myself.

Asked for a discussion around induction method and what the options were based on preference being as natural birth as possible

Felt like questions were shut down by the doctor who said - we have 10 women in the ward behind you waiting to give birth so we need to do this now

Doctors are on shift during the day so we want you to have this baby on this shift and not overnight.

Following that I asked for time to think - the midwife apologised to us and told us that the amount of people waiting and lack of staff was not our own problem and to make a decision based on what we were comfortable with.

None the less I still felt pressured and felt that I wasn't allowed to take my time going into labour - even when asking if me or my baby were at risk - the answer was no both currently fine but it can be dangerous and we need to do this now because we have other people waiting.

Induction process was balloon catheter overnight prior

Break waters at 8am and then only allowed 1 hour before starting the drugs

I had asked whether I could have longer between breaking my waters and starting the drip to see whether I was able to go into labour naturally but was told that's against protocol and that they had people waiting.