Submission No 1333

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name:Hayley DingleDate Received:13 August 2023

Partially Confidential

Waters broke at 1pm, labour was progressing well made the trip to hospital. I was in hospital from 2am to 7am the next day where I was then transferred for a being febrile, attempted to have Panadol which I then vomited up straight away. Once arriving in the ambulance I was now afebrile but still transferred anyway, while in the ambulance I was in transition and arrived at hospital dilated 9cm.

By the time I got up to the birth suites I had severe pressure in my bottom and wanted to push but was told by the midwife that I was not allowed to push yet because I was only 9.5cm. I screamed holding my bottom trying to suck my baby back inside me, after doing so my contractions began to stall, which ended in a 3 hr prolonged pushing stage with barely any constructions. I was then told by the obstetrician on duty that I wasn't allowed to push any longer due to hospital policy and suggested forceps delivery which I reluctantly accepted. After the epidural and applying the forceps the obstetrician told me she would be giving me an episiotomy "just in case" I tore from the forceps, which I refused. During the forceps delivery my sons shoulder was wedged and he has shoulder dystocia and was ripped out of me and unable to breathe, requiring oxygen for 20 minutes, my son was then unable to feed for over 24 hours which left me feeling like a failure and extremely worried our breastfeeding journey was over before it started. The next day I was then approached by the birthing manager that their thermometer was faulty and I was transferred because of a faulty machine (which they apparently knew was faulty)

My birth forever plagues me over my limp little son being ripped from my body struggling to breathe.