

Submission
No 1107

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Elizabeth Reid
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Partially
Confidential

I gave birth at _____ Private hospital under the care of an OB. My birth was fine, I was induced but it didn't work so I had an emergency C section. It was the afterwards that was traumatic and why I will not return to that hospital for my next birth. I had my c section at 6.09pm. The midwife's did not offer me skin to skin once with my son. They gave me so much endone that I didn't wake up that whole first night to care for my son. They tried to shove him on my breast when I have flat nipples, not once was a shield offered. They also kept feeding him formula. They fed him so much formula that he kept vomiting. He vomited so much they said he had to go to special care and have a feeding tube. They then gave him 30mls of formula at not even 24 hours old down the tube. He then started to vomit green bile. We were taken by ambulance, separate ambulances because of my c section to the _____ hospital in _____ for a contrast. His stomach was fine and the midwife at _____ said he should have been having small amounts of formula because his stomach is the size of a pea. They caused my partner and I so much stress and so much trauma in the first 48 hours after the birth. The midwives in Sydney however gave me a nipple shield, they started him on 5mls of formula. The midwives at _____ private were nowhere near as professional or knowledgeable as the Sydney ones. I paid a lot of money to have my son privately and we had such a shocking experience there. Also the midwife in the special care nursery at _____ told me I had to leave my son to let him sleep unless it was feeding time. My son wasn't even 24 hours old and I'm told I can't see him or hold him or cuddle him. It was appalling that they treat mothers like this especially first time mothers.