

Submission
No 1126

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Miss Hannah Lee
Date Received: 13 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

I gave birth in 2016 - during my pregnancy I was not aware my baby was in the posterior position - during birth while I was in labour someone came up to me and gave me a pop out trial brochure and asked if I consent to take part in the trial I didn't fully understand what it was but gave my consent anyway thinking it was a survey / during my 24 hour birth I attempted to give birth naturally for 24 hours - I had a manual rotation done twice by an obstetrician as part of the "pop out trial" which didn't work , I could feel that labour wasn't progressing and my pelvis felt like it was blocking my contractions - my midwife during the labour told my partner to lie to me and say he could see the baby's head when he couldn't as motivation for me to push as she thought it was my fault the labour wasn't progressing / I had morphine pethidine and two failed epidurals that didn't work and nothing relieved the pain after 24 hours I demanded that I have a C-section because I knew something was wrong I was 10cm dilated with no progression for hours they finally gave me an emergency C-section and the csection doctor said to me after you never would have given birth naturally the baby was in such a bad position, lucky my baby was fine and the only sign of distress was meconium in my amniotic fluid when my waters broke. I was offered no information no support and no help after and didn't sleep for four days post csection in the maternity ward struggling to come to terms with my birth trauma / during the recovery I had to breast feed my baby recovering from a C-section physically get up and reach into a tall baby cot every hour without any help from a nurse I could not breastfeed I could not settle my baby and could not sleep for days. I ended up requesting to be discharged so I could go home to the support of my partner he was not allowed to stay over in a public hospital - this was all at hospital
- I ended up developing post natal anxiety and ocd from the whole ordeal