

Supplementary
Submission
No 224g

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Organisation: Hygieia Health Ltd

Date Received: 15 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

Please accept this submission which we are including on behalf of a mother name . now lives on the but her experience happened in . She is happy to be named and contacted. From here on in the words you read are her own:

What I firstly wanted to say is that my experience that I had in the last couple of weeks has actually been phenomenal. I had a super traumatic birth just 3 weeks ago, SUPER traumatic. But what I did want to say was that I had THE BEST care and so much support. I lost my little girl day 6 but honestly the care that I had from Private and my OB team and paediatricians and midwives and we got transferred to the Hospital in and they were phenomenal. To the point where some of them attended the funeral for my little girl on Monday. So I just wanted to say that first.

Below is my traumatic experience...

So is the place it happened at and it was 23/2/2017. I went in for a termination of pregnancy and I just had zero support. I remember being treated so poorly. I remember they asked me at the time what contraception I'd be going on going forward and I answered 'none' telling them I hadn't been on contraception for quite some time. I don't agree with it and I don't want it in my body. And the woman turned around to me and said 'well where has that gotten you' basically blaming me for being pregnant / having a termination.

It was super traumatic. There was no follow up. And she sort of 'upsold' me the IUD... saying 'well if we put it in now while you're having the termination, then you get for cheaper' – using a sales tactic.

They also told me that the only symptoms that I would have from the IUD is that I wouldn't have my periods. And I thought that wasn't really a problem I don't mind getting my period and I always get great periods. So they put the IUD in and what they hadn't told me at the time and I didn't research because I wasn't in the space to do it, really not long later I got super, super, super depressed and I was actually suicidal and it wasn't until I finally clicked one day and I thought 'oh my gosh I need to get that IUD out' and I went down to the Dr one day to get it out and they were super rude and told me to keep it in for longer and it hadn't had time to 'set in' or some bullshit. And so, this Dr just kinda like ripped it out.

I had even ended up in hospital before I got the IUD taken out ... I was driving to work on my own in the car and I started screaming in excruciating pain and I ended up getting an ambulance to hospital and I thought the IUD had ruptured something. And it hadn't, or so they said... they basically just told me nothing was wrong and sent me home.

I don't KNOW if it was linked but since the IUD I ended up in and out of hospital, I had lots of fertility issues. I had a miscarriage in 2019, and then yeh awful periods, awful pains and it wasn't until last year and another 2 years of trying to have a baby, I finally got diagnosed with stage 4 endometriosis again after years of hospitals telling me there was nothing wrong.

There was one time I was in hospital and what they put on my discharge papers was 'abdominal pain due to excessive alcohol consumption post miscarriage'... so they basically made out as if I'd been in hospital because I was drunk, and I'd literally just been at my uncle's 60th and it ended up being that I was actually having an endometriosis flare up but I was undiagnosed at the time.