From:

Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric

Subject: Select Committee on Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric Health Services

Date: Monday, 16 September 2024 7:37:58 PM

Dear Secretary,

I am writing to the Select Committee about my story involving traumatic postpartum care which resulted in breastfeeding trauma.

My name is I live in Launceston, I am a father to a 3 years old son. I would like to address trauma that I experienced entering parenthood here in Tasmania.

My wife had an unwanted Caesarean. I watched her then experience practitioner led attachment breastfeeding trying to get the baby to feed with instant nipple damage. My wife then developed a breast abscess requiring surgery. She was put into the children's ward post surgery but the nurses could not look after my son because he was not a patient. I had to stay in the children's ward and look after my son because my wife was too ill to care for him. It was awful sleeping on a couch.

After the traumatic Caesarean, where my wife's ovaries were inspected without her permission, we are unsure if we will extend our family due to the trauma. If we did, we would want a home birth with a endorsed private Midwife, but with the proposed restrictions on Midwife professional indemnity insurance, only low risk patients would be possible to engage a private midwife. This would rule us out due to being a VBAC (birth after a Caesarean) which would be devastating to miss out on this gold standard care option.

This makes me feel hopeless. Thanks for Listening.

Regards

