

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric](#)  
**Subject:** Birth enquiry submission.  
**Date:** Monday, 9 September 2024 12:11:02 PM

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My Name is [REDACTED] and I was a Patient at the RHH on [REDACTED] for the birth of my child.

I was put into a very difficult position, both physically and emotionally during what should have been the happiest moments of my life and ultimately putting my sons life and mine at risk.

A Dr [REDACTED] made me feel unsafe, threatened, treated me as though I was of significantly lesser intelligence, questioned my decisions despite me explaining that I had fully researched and understood my choices to abstain from VitK injections , she then Attempted to use coercive control to manipulate my decisions, did not respect or attempt to understand my very real fear of hospital and then in my notes (of which I have photographs of her writings) questioned my mental health- without attempting to understand my reasons of concern.

I was then forced to attend weigh ins every two days in the hospital despite being told I had a fear of hospitals due to previous Motor Vehicle Accident / significant trauma/injury and hospital negligence, despite reassuring her that I would have my private lactation consultant and GP check and weigh baby

and have the Community Nurse weigh him on home visits. This was not acceptable to Dr [REDACTED] so to much personal distress I attended the hospital in person and each time my milk dried up after successfully breastfeeding prior at home in the days I didn't have to go into the hospital.

**I had to pump double on my days home to sustain supply after the stress of the outing the day before and had no opportunity to enjoying my fourth trimester**

On one visit I was told my baby would be admitted and given a feeding tube. I asked if I instead could receive fluids IV because I was so dehydrated, I had low blood pressure, anemia with cracking lips and ulcerated mouth after losing >3 l of blood during labour.

I was told I would have to attend the emergency department despite being an admitted outpatient for 6 days in the paediatric unit. I did not have a hospital staff member check me or received any breastfeeding advice or assistance, nor check my child for Tongue Tie despite him having a severe posterior tongue tie - they ticked the box in my blue book but never checked and it had to be revised at 8 weeks (8 weeks of literal hell - nipple blebs , awful drs, nurses, CHP's misdiagnosing nipple thrush etc,

whilst not one checked my son or myself- just constantly harassed about weight gain)

Once my sons ties were revised (at great cost to myself privately for revision, diagnosis and physio, lactation consultants and a great deal of pain, stress and trauma) we had no further issues breastfeeding and he is still 90% breastfed at 16months

A Midwife who visited my home on [REDACTED] (name not legible on blue book notes) this midwife not only used threatening language like "take the baby" "have baby admitted" "Have nasogastric tube to feed" and "I will attempt to advocate for your choices" she also had a doctor who did not consult with me at all - prescribe a medication (domperindone) that is not only contraindicated for my prior medical conditions but that the information leaflet itself says to not use if the patient is pregnant or breastfeeding. She did and said all of this without once checking myself, my breastfeeding or baby in any way aside from weighing him.

She told me she would check I had collected from pharmacy and ensure I was taking it (I was later tested to not have low prolactin levels (which is why Domperidone is prescribed for breastfeeding)

The Midwife who was in charge of the majority of my labour name [REDACTED] (sp?)

despite it going against my birth wishes this midwife

made me feel as if I had no choice but to have the heart monitor (that barely works) strapped to my body- it only worked when held and pushed into my stomach, every time I let go when having a contraction the midwife kept saying they couldn't find baby's heart beat, insinuating his heart had stopped despite there being no indications this was the case. This caused great emotional distress to my child's father (an Afghanistan war veteran with significant PTSD) Despite the fact I had explained that these monitors were unreliable and then I refused to wear it. When the midwife realised she could no longer coerce me, she spoke with my partner and then he emotionally blackmailed me into consenting to a fetal heart rate monitor being screwed into my son's head unnecessarily and against my birthplan and wishes. I simply agreed to stop him having a breakdown or risking harm to staff.

After this coercion I asked [REDACTED] to please leave the room and I requested a different midwife or to be left alone, only to be told that she would not leave that they did not have the staff to swap.

I told them I would not have my baby with her in the room and I did in fact have the baby shortly after her change in shift, as the next midwife noticed the cord had been wrapped around my son's neck the whole

time, despite [REDACTED] assuring me nothing was wrong and that I just needed to push harder. She constantly addressed me as "Lovely" which made my uncomfortable and was very unprofessional.

If I had not had my car accident and other medical incompetence issues in my past my birth story would have been a lot different.

My obstetrician kept telling me my baby was large (despite birthing at 4060)

Recommendations to induce , have elective c sections.

I was not allowed to birth in the pool despite it being my first choice because suspected MEC in water (later I was told this was not the case and they apologised)

The shower was broken etc

I was refused by staff to take my own baby outside so I could get fresh air, even in the internal garden area. So I opted to go home despite really not being well enough.

The stress of my postpartum period - the misinformation provided by staff significantly contributed to my child's father and I separating in the post partum period.

Also my Centrelink payments took months to start and it was lucky I could rely on family to house myself and my son and pay our ongoing medical bills

or our outcome would have been significantly different

Luckily I can advocate for myself - I fear for the women and children who cannot.

Please consider my story when making decisions regarding maternal health outcomes -

Having seen the Queensland birth strategy I feel like this would be the quickest way to implement positive changes In Tasmania to follow their model.

In kindness

[REDACTED]

If you have any questions

[REDACTED]

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