

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric](#)
Subject: Select Committee on Reproductive Health etc.. My story
Date: Monday, 9 September 2024 1:40:48 PM

Dear Secretary,

I have two girls 1 & 3 years old.

My first birthing experience I cannot complain about but in [REDACTED] when I gave birth to my second daughter I had a whole other experience.

I went in to hospital in early stages of labour (3 1/2 weeks before my due date) only to be told that I wasn't in labour my baby was weeks away and had a gastro bug and to go home take some pain relief, I was made feel stupid and convinced myself it wasn't labour.

The early hours of the next morning my pain and 'gastro' was so bad my husband insisted I call the hospital again.

I spoke to a nurse who said she saw me last night and that there was nothing she could do and I just needed to ride the 'gastro bug' out, it would be pointless me coming in as they would have to set up the isolation room for me and were to under staffed to do so.

If my husband hadn't of insisted we go to the hospital I would have had my daughter at home.

We left for the hospital immediately and from when we got the parking ticket to when she was born it was under 30 minutes.

We arrived at the hospital, buzzed in and an upset nurse wasn't happy as we had no masks on and the isolation room wasn't prepared for me.

She walked back leaving us outside the doors to get masks while I was bent over in pain in the last throws of labour.

As we walked up the corridor she goes.. oh maybe you don't have gastro.. no I don't we insisted once again.

Upon checking me out they realised she was actually on her way out and two nurses rushed around to get prepared. As it was coming to the end of their shift and they had worked overtime they complained the whole time setting up and once she was born they both left me there as soon as she came out for the next nurses to take over.. 2 hours later I'm still laying in the bed in my own blood while my husband went searching for someone to help me.

[REDACTED] a midwife came and helped me clean up and explained that they didn't know I was there she then sent a midwife to come and do all my baby checks etc.

I don't know the nurses names who even delivered my daughter as they were out the door before I could even catch my breath.

I'm sure there has been worse stories you have read but this shouldn't have happened to me. I suffered afterwards mentally and to this day still troubled by my experience of feeling stupid and alone when I asked for help in the early stages of labour and post labour due to lack of staffing.

I hope that other people don't have to go through what I went through or worse.

My daughter could have been birthed at home if my husband hadn't of pushed- who knows what our outcome could have then been.

Sent from my iPhone