

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric](#)
Date: My testimonial regarding birth trauma in Tasmania
Wednesday, 11 September 2024 9:44:55 AM

I am writing to you in the hope that joining in with my testimonial will prompt an investigation into the very substandard women's health in Tasmania.

I had two births at the RRH, one in [REDACTED] (bad but not as traumatic) and one in [REDACTED] (extremely bad and traumatic).

For the first birth, I was sent back home whilst in labour, being told that "if I really were in labour I would not be able to breathe between contractions". This means I laboured at home nearly right up to the birth of my son (I arrived at the hospital at 6 PM and was holding my newborn at 6.20 PM).

For the second birth, they refused me an epidural before midnight on the ground that "it was too late as I was fully dilated and the baby was coming now". My daughter was born at 6.20 AM, you do the maths, over six hours fully dilated, in great amounts of pain and with an long and complicated birth due to my baby's position in the birth canal. My husband really thought he would see us both die so it was traumatic for him as well.

None of my peers in my homeland have been put through such ordeals, it makes it look like Tasmania is stuck in the middle ages or no better than a third world country.

I really hope that future mothers will never have to go through what I and countless others have here in Hobart.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]