Impact of Transfer Status on Mistreatment

Global health experts agree that how people are treated during childbirth can affect the health and well-being of mother, child, and family. While rates of mistreatment are significantly lower in the community setting, research shows that about 10% of all planned community births transfer to the hospital, mostly for non-emergent reasons. How does transfer to the hospital affect mistreatment rates?

Families Who Transfer Experience High Levels of Mistreatment

Women who were transferred from a community setting to a hospital, after the onset of labor, experienced high rates of mistreatment (34.6%).

Types of Mistreatment for Transferring Families

Health care providers threatened to withhold treatment, forced birthing parent to accept treatment, or threatened in other way.

Birthing person was ignored and/or requests for help were refused or not responded to in a reasonable amount of time.

Shouted at or scolded by a health care provider.

Families Report Being Treated Poorly After Birth

46.3% were treated poorly because of their decision to have a home birth.

Find the full study and learn more at www.birthplacelab.org/mistreatment
