

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 reasons¹. 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



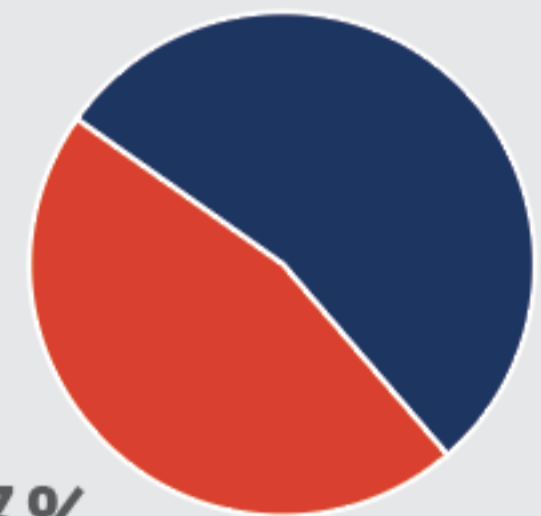
Health care providers threatened to withhold treatment, forced birthing parent to accept treatment, or threatened in other way

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

Vedam, S., Stoll, K., Khemet Taiwo, T., Rubashkin, N., Cheyney, M., Strauss, N. . . & the GVtM-US Steering Council. (2019). "The Giving Voice to Mothers study: inequity and mistreatment during pregnancy and childbirth in the United States". *Reproductive Health*, 16. DOI: 10.1186/s12978-019-0729-2

¹Cheyney, M., Bovbjerg, M., Everson, C., Gordon, W., Hannibal, D., & Vedam, S. (2014). "Outcomes of Care for 16,924 Planned Home Births in the United States: The Midwives Alliance of North America Statistics Project, 2004 to 2009". *Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health*, 59(1), 17-27. DOI: 10.1111/jmwh.12172