

Obstetrical Care Disclosure Statement

Each year approximately 6,200 women deliver their babies at Brigham and Women's Hospital, a major teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. Our newborn intensive care unit is designated Level III, providing the most specialized care for babies that require additional care. We also serve as a referral center for families throughout New England.

Our obstetrical care encompasses the full range of obstetrics from birthing rooms to critical care obstetrical management. Despite the availability of these high-risk resources, most of our patients seek and experience normal obstetrical care services.

Massachusetts' legislation has been amended to require disclosure to maternity patients of certain hospital statistics. These statistics are included in the table on the reverse side of this letter and reflect care provided for our maternity patients for our 2020 fiscal year. Because of the proportionately larger number of high-risk patients cared for at Brigham and Women's, these statistics can differ significantly from those hospitals that admit few or no high-risk patients. In fact, patients are transferred to us for prenatal care or even in labor from other hospitals without high-risk services.

Women who are thinking about becoming pregnant or who are already pregnant, should consult with their physicians or nurse-midwives regarding their risk factors. There are a range of conditions that can increase risk for women and their babies during pregnancy and after delivery. For example, women with diabetes, hypertension, heart, or kidney disease may be in a high-risk category and require one of our specialty programs for coordinated multidisciplinary treatment.

Some high-risk patients may need to deliver by cesarean birth, thus a higher cesarean rate. In addition, some types of prior uterine surgery including the baby in breech presentation or events which occur during labor such as fetal distress or failure to make progress, also may be reasons an individual physician decides a cesarean birth is necessary.

Please review these statistics and discuss them with your physician. Also, please feel free to contact our OB Admissions Office at **(617) 732-5521** or the Parent/Childbirth Education Office at **(617) 275-1738** if you have any additional questions. Our goal is to make your stay a positive experience.

Maternity Statistics

Fiscal Year 2020

Total Number of Deliveries:	approximately 6,200
Deliveries:	
In Labor/Birth/Recovery rooms	69%
By Certified Nurse-Midwives	8%
Monitoring of labor:	
By continuous external electronic fetal monitor	76%
By continuous internal electronic fetal monitor	7%
Both externally and internally	1%
Labors/deliveries that used the following procedures:	
Intravenous	86%
Induction of labor	14.6%
Augmentation of labor	34.7%
Forceps-assisted	2.1%
Vacuum-assisted	4.5%
Episiotomies	3.7%
Epidural anesthesia	70.5%
Spinal anesthesia	14.3%
General anesthesia	0.5%
Women breastfeeding upon discharge	92.1%
Average age of All Mothers	33.1
Average Mother Length of Stay (Days)	
With Cesarean Sections	4.8
With Vaginal Deliveries	2.8
NICU Level in Hospital:	III
Website Address of Hospital:	brighamandwomens.org