



CO DESIGN 2

PERSONALISING THE THEATRE PROCESS

Starvation times

Its easy to forget how long women haven't had anything to eat and drink when we're in a busy elective operating list. Let's try to build in some processes that help us outside of obstetrics

- Anaesthetists and obstetricians could help by seeing women on the morning of surgery and liaising with Gwillim
- Bring order AND drinking into briefing in am
- Check current info given to mums for accuracy re timings

Transfers to theatre

Lifts can be busy and travelling up and down before and after delivery can be intimidating. We thought of addressing privacy in theatre through info on and in the lift. What do you think?

Dignity

Everywhere else in the hospital patients wear paper undies and a dressing gown to transfer so why not maternity? Gwillim are currently investigating. Pre op info could include prompt



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Being made to feel special isn't a big ask. This might be the only first and last time this mum has surgery let alone a baby so wouldn't you like to feel like you were treated with dignity and warmth - we already know its a safe place to be but it still feels scary and anonymous

We met with mums and staff to work through what personalising a theatre birth might involve

👣 Women walk through delivery suite into theatre, there's no fixed holding area, sometimes wait in waiting room with labouring women - scary, intrusive to other women

💡 Use team briefing /handover to identify holding area

👤 Arrive in theatre - big crowd, first place they know who is going to be there

💡 Create info on website about who's who, mirror gallery in DS on Gwillim so parents can see who we are

👤 Drips can get in the way of breastfeeding baby

💡 Maybe off the shoulder on DRIP side for spinal then 2nd arm out for S2S so ends with strapless dress look and nothing to untangle if gown gets dirty too. Win, win!



A warm welcome is so appreciated so even if things are getting busy your smile goes a long way!

"... fear of an operative birth was dispelled by a theatre team which worked seamlessly and were kind and caring. The butterflies were amazing!"

'I feel luck to have had my baby at St George's and thank everyone for all of their kindness in what was a scary time for a first time mum'

Feel free to send us your compliments to share with the wider team

💡 Soften approach by including parents in introductions (pretty good already) and birth choices - music, lights, viewing, announcing sex etc

💡 suggested idea of piloting delivering to MW on LEFT of surgeon to see whether it helps time to contact between mums and baby, plus review need for sterility

- 💡 move resuscitaire so even if baby there for any reason parents can see - Nasreen (NNU) to pilot



Contact us via the project email, twitter or just holler when you see Emma, Julia or Andrew

