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A case study of 5 years of laboring women at home after cesarean section

Jennifer Hoadley

Birds and Bees Midwifery, USA

Trial of labor after cesarean section has dramatically decreased since 1997 after a series of uterine ruptures lead to the safety of VBAC being questioned. Further review of the uterine ruptures identified that prostaglandin induction was the culprit for the ruptures. By the time that was identified, many physicians and hospitals had placed bans on TOLAC. Since that time AGOG has slowly updated their VBAC guidelines stating that all low risk women with previous cesarean sections should be given a trial of labor. Many factors have led to slow implementation of these guidelines. This has forced many women to look outside the hospital to find a care provider who will assist them with a TOLAC. Midwifery care for women after cesarean section is controversial in the United States. In some states there are statutes that prevent Certified Professional Midwives from attending TOLAC; this is the case in Alaska. As a Certified Nurse Midwife I am not bound by those regulations. As such, I have become the sole out of hospital provider caring for women who desire a primary VBAC and one of 3 providers who does VBAC at all. The current VBAC success rate in Alaska is 22%. My practice has a success rate greater than 85%. This leads me to believe that many women are undergoing unnecessary repeat cesarean sections in the hospital setting.

Biography

Jennifer Hoadley is a graduate of Frontier Nursing University. She is the only Certified Nurse Midwife in Alaska who attends primary TOLAC, twins and breech birth out of the hospital. She has been in practice since 2018.

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