



## INTRAPARTUM CARE

### PHOTOGRAPHS / VIDEO DURING BIRTH

**Keywords:** Birth photographs, birth video, videoing the birth

Members of the public may wish to take photographs or perform a video recording during birth.

1. Verbal permission must be given prior to commencement by:
  - the woman giving birth
  - hospital staff that may be photographed or filmed.
2. Prior to the commencement of photography or filming the person filming must be advised:
  - floor mounted equipment is not permitted as it may hamper access to equipment or provide occupational safety and health issues in an emergency situation.
  - they should remain at the head of the bed, or at an appropriate position elected by the accoucheur so as not to hamper the safety of the birth.
  - That if an emergency situation arises, or the accoucheur deems it appropriate, they must cease filming when requested.
3. The hospital does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to camera equipment.
4. The use of a video during birth shall be documented in the patient's notes.

### THEATRE

If a woman is in theatre the photographer must be advised that:

1. The theatre co-ordinator will liaise with all medical and nursing/midwifery personnel to obtain permission for photography or video filming. The theatre co-ordinator will then advise the person filming if permission is granted, and of any restrictions required.
2. The photographer/support person **MUST** remain at the head of the operating table **at all times**. If appropriate, and with staff consent, they may be escorted to the neonatal resuscitation cot to perform further filming.
3. A staff member may be asked to take photographs of the mother, partner, support person, and the baby following birth. This is permitted but normal responsibilities and work practices must take priority.
4. Please refer to WNHS Policy W136 Photography and Videography within Women and Newborn Health Service

<b>5.18 Photographs / Video during Birth</b>	
National Standards – 1- Care provided by the clinical workforce is guided by current best practice	
Legislation -	
Related Policies – WNHS <a href="#">W136 Photography and Videography within Women and Newborn Health Service</a>	
Other related documents – Nil	
<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	
<b>Policy Sponsor</b>	Nursing & Midwifery Director OGCCU
<b>Initial Endorsement</b>	May 1992
<b>Last Reviewed</b>	October 2014
<b>Last Amended</b>	February 2015
<b>Review date</b>	October 2017

**Do not keep printed versions of guidelines as currency of information cannot be guaranteed.  
Access the current version from the WNHS website.**