We are committed to having a healthy mom, a healthy baby, a normal delivery and a great experience with the hospital, staff and physicians. Our group practices evidence-based medicine and our cesarean rate is less than the average for this community.

My Birth Preferences

About me:
Mother’s name: _________________________________________________________
Baby’s name and gender: ________________________________________________
My expected due date: __________________________________________________
Who I want in the room with me: ________________________________________

Routine practices at Good Samaritan Hospital:

- Room ambiance is in your control (lights, temperature, music, television.)
- Privacy is important. There are no medical students or residents. Nursing students are occasionally present to help your Labor & Delivery nurse.
- Fetal heart rate monitoring begins once you are admitted.
- Mobility during labor is encouraged, you may walk, sit, stand in your room or out in the hallways.
- Baby will come to your chest immediately after delivery.
- We observe the “Golden Hour” of skin to skin bonding after delivery.
- Breast feeding is highly encouraged; babies will be in a room with you.
- Pacifiers and formula supplementation are only given to your baby after discussion with you.
- Administration of Vitamin K and eye ointment to every newborn. Hepatitis B vaccine is also recommended.

Routine practice of Palo Alto Medical Foundation Los Gatos OB/GYN:

- Delayed cord clamping, if possible. Cord cutting by your significant other, if possible.
- Episiotomies are performed rarely, only if necessary for the health of the baby.
- If assistance is necessary for the health of the baby, vacuums may be used.
During Labor:

- I would like to be mobile, if possible:
  - Walking
  - Birthing ball
  - Squatting
  - Suggestion:

Hydration:

- Clear Fluids
- Ice Chips
- IV Fluids

Mobility:

- I have no preference about IV access and tubing, as long as I am still mobile.
- If possible, please just leave in a saline “lock” in case IV access is needed later.
- If possible, I do not want any IV access after admission labs are drawn.
- Fetal monitoring to be intermittent, if possible.

If I appear to be in pain:

- Please do not mention pain medications
- My partner/doula will be my coach for managing my pain
- Please help coach me with breathing exercises, movements, and positions that help
- I would like the option to be able to take a shower
- I would like to be informed of my options if you feel pain medication is appropriate
- I am planning on an epidural

Near and during delivery:

- I am interested in these positions, if possible:
  - In bed
  - Leaning on the side of the bed
  - With side handles
  - With direction
  - Squatting
  - With a squatting bar
  - With direction

Baby Care:

Feeding:

- I am planning on breast feeding
- I am planning on formula feeding
- I am planning on both breast and formula feeding

We will do our very best to honor your preferences.