

ALPINE WOMEN'S CENTER

CONSENT TO OBSTETRICAL TREATMENT

The goal of obstetrics is that every pregnancy be wanted and culminate in both a healthy mother and baby. Advances in medicine have reduced some of the risks of injury and death but, especially in obstetrics, there is no guarantee of a successful outcome. Your baby may suffer serious problems at birth because of natural processes and complications that are beyond your control, the control of the physician, and the control of the hospital where you plan your delivery.

During your pregnancy, your doctor may recommend limitations of your activities, referral to other physicians, hospitalization, or other treatment. Unexpected complications can occur during your pregnancy or labor which may require prompt delivery of your baby. Drugs are available to stimulate labor, instruments may be used, and delivery by Cesarean section may be recommended. Each of these procedures involves substantial and significant risks.

You should discuss with your prenatal care provider any proposed treatment and other alternatives available to you and make sure your questions are answered. It is your right and responsibility to share in all decisions about the care you will receive.

Should an emergency arise, the availability of hospital anesthesia and surgery personnel may affect how quickly your baby can be delivered. In the hospital where your delivery is planned, anesthesia and surgery personnel are available at all hours. The hospital has demonstrated the capability of an emergency delivery, in most cases, within 30 minutes after notification of personnel, but may not always be able to do so.

By signing this document you acknowledge that there are substantial and significant risks to both mother and child in the childbirth process and there can be no guarantees of a successful outcome.

Patient Signature

Date

Witness