

Emory Healthcare Obstetric (OB) Tour FAQs

Thank you for choosing Emory Healthcare. Our dedicated professionals are working with you to ensure that each birth is a positive experience for both you and your baby. Read below for our frequently asked questions. If you have any additional questions, please email health.connection@emoryhealthcare.org, and we will get back to you.

General COVID-19 Information

- For the most up-to-date information, please visit emoryhealthcare.org/visitorpolicy.

When arriving at the hospital, where do I park and register?

- **Emory University Hospital Midtown:** When arriving to the hospital while in labor, you'll park in the Visitor Parking Deck and exit the elevators on Level F. Turn left and cross the pedestrian bridge that leads into the hospital. You'll walk into a main waiting area. Walk past the escalators to the elevators located on the left. You will then head to the 3rd floor registration where they will check you in. You'll wait in this area until they call you back to triage for further evaluation. *If you think you are having an emergency, go directly to the Emergency Department. They will escort you to Labor & Delivery right away.*
- **Emory Johns Creek Hospital:** Between 5 a.m. – 9 p.m., when you first enter our campus, you may park in the parking lot that is closest to the front of the main hospital entrance. Between 9 p.m. – 5 a.m., we ask that you enter through our Emergency Department. You will be greeted and will be seen for further evaluation. *If you are experiencing an emergency, please go straight to our Emergency Department.*
- **Emory Decatur Hospital:** When you first enter our campus, you will park underneath the Dr. Bobbie Bailey Tower located at 2701 North Decatur Road. Take the elevator to the second floor, make a left as soon as you exit the elevator, and you'll see the registration desk to your left. *If you think you are having an emergency, please pull in front of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey Tower, and we will escort you.*

What should I bring with me to the hospital?

- Please bring a photo ID and insurance card to the hospital.
- During your stay, we will provide most-needed supplies (i.e. pads, mesh underwear, diapers and wipes) for you and your baby. You are responsible for bringing an outfit for yourself and baby when you are ready to leave the hospital. We ask that you keep all valuables at home. Please [click here](#) for a full list of suggested items to bring with you to the hospital.
- Please make sure you have a car seat(s) properly installed in your car PRIOR to coming to the hospital. **If your baby is born prematurely (at least 3 weeks), we will need to do extra testing with your car seat, and you'll need to bring it inside with you for testing.**
- We do provide peanut balls for labor. Please ask your nurse if one is available. You are welcome to bring your own labor ball or other helpful labor devices. You are welcome to play music (as long as it's played at a respectful volume), utilize aromatherapy and LED candles while in labor as well as bring your favorite pillow/blanket (we do provide pillows and blankets for our patients and support person).

What can I expect during my stay?

- In our OB triage area you will meet with a nurse who will gather general information about your health and symptoms, and assess your labor. If results show you are not in labor yet, you may be able to return home.
- All of our Labor & Delivery and Mother-Baby rooms are private rooms that include bathrooms and a sofa bed or window seat bed. Note that just before and after a C-section, you will be in the pre/post-operative recovery area where there may be other patients (divided by curtains) until you are moved to your room located in the Mother-Baby unit.
- Only photographs are allowed during your delivery; no videotaping is allowed during delivery.
- For the safety of our infants, all of our units remain locked at all times. After delivery, the baby will receive two ID bands. Additionally, you and your support person will receive one ID band each. All ID bands will match. **Leave ID bands on until ALL of you are home.** Your baby will also wear a security band.
- You will remain on the L&D unit after your delivery to recover before heading to your Mother-Baby room.

- You will be provided a menu for room service for three meals a day (this applies to patients only).
- A typical hospital stay is one to two days after vaginal delivery and two to three days after a C-section.

Does Emory Healthcare perform water births or lotus births

- Emory Healthcare does not perform water births or lotus births.

What if I want to donate cord blood?

- Delayed cord clamping is recommended for 1- 2 minutes after delivery if you and your baby are healthy. You are welcome to arrange private cord blood banking ahead of time with a separate private company. Please make your nurse or provider aware of your plan for private cord blood banking when you come to the hospital, and bring any necessary kits or supplies you have been given with you.
- If you wish to donate your cord blood for free, this opportunity is available at Emory University Hospital Midtown. Please inform your L&D nurse and provider before your delivery.

Does Emory Healthcare support breastfeeding?

- Emory Healthcare supports breastfeeding and provides education and lactation support for you to help with feeding your baby successfully. If you and your baby are healthy, we encourage skin-to-skin contact for one hour after delivery to support bonding and facilitate breastfeeding. Assessments on your baby can be done during skin-to-skin time. If you and baby are healthy, the baby will be able to stay in the room with you your entire stay, so you can learn your baby's feeding cues and feed on-demand. All of our nurses are trained in infant feeding best practices. If you should need additional, specialized help with feeding for your baby, we do have lactation consultants onsite. *It is important to note, that mothers who make an informed choice to formula feed will be supported and their decision will be respected by Emory Healthcare.*

Can I take my placenta home?

- If you're planning to take your placenta home, please inform your L&D nurse and provider before your delivery. If the placenta does not need to be examined by pathology, you will arrange for member of your family to take the placenta home from Labor & Delivery. We do not allow you to bring it up to the Mother-Baby unit. It is not safe to ingest any portion of your placenta once it has been placed in formalin.

Is there a NICU onsite?

- All of our delivering facilities have a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) if your baby needs extra care before going home. This is typical for premature babies or those that may need additional monitoring. Our NICU has specially trained staff who can attend to newborns in need.

Can I have my baby circumcised at the hospital?

- If desired; circumcision is performed by your obstetric or neonatal provider. Most providers will do this in the hospital, however, some may complete this in their office during the week after delivery. Please check with your provider before your due date regarding their typical practice for this procedure.

When do I choose a pediatrician?

- BEFORE you deliver, take a moment to choose your baby's pediatrician. Pediatricians on staff will care for your baby while in the hospital, but it will be up to you to select a pediatrician for all follow-up appointments once you leave the hospital.