

## RESOURCES

### Midwifery Clinic Next Birth After Caesarean

Tel: (08) 9340 1626

### Birthrites: Healing After Caesarean Inc. Consumer group

[www.birthrites.org](http://www.birthrites.org)

### Your Child Health Nurse

### Postnatal Depression Support Association

Tel: (08) 9340 1622

### Women and Newborn Health Library, KEMH

Tel: (08) 9340 1100

### Community Midwifery WA Pregnancy and childbirth resource centres

336 Oxford St Leederville.

Tel: (08) 9242 3330

Unit 1/40 Pearse St North Fremantle.

Tel: (08) 9430 6882

### Other internet sites:

[www.childbirthconnection.org](http://www.childbirthconnection.org)

[www.vbac.com](http://www.vbac.com)

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Every picture tells a story.  
Thank you to all the women who so generously provided their photos for use in this publication.

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## WOMEN AND NEWBORN HEALTH SERVICE

### King Edward Memorial Hospital

374 Bagot Road Subiaco WA 6008

Telephone: (08) 9340 2222



Delivering a Healthy WA

# Repeat Caesarean Section



Although most women who have had a previous lower segment caesarean section are eligible for a vaginal birth after caesarean, some will need to have another caesarean section for reasons related to the mother's or the baby's health and well-being. In addition, some women choose to have a repeat caesarean section for personal reasons.

### Benefits of caesarean section

- For women and babies whose medical condition means vaginal birth would be dangerous or not possible, caesarean section provides a safer alternative in comparison.
- For women who are so highly fearful of childbirth that their mental health is affected by it, planning to give birth by caesarean section may reduce their anxiety.



### Risks of caesarean section

We now know that caesarean section is not as trouble-free as we once thought it was. For some women and babies however, the risks of caesarean section are far less than the risk of vaginal birth.

- Increased likelihood of blood loss. Depending on the degree of bleeding, some women may require a blood transfusion and/or hysterectomy.
- Risk of developing complications associated with having surgery, such as blood clots.
- Chance of wound infection.
- Slower recovery time.
- Increased likelihood of complications for future pregnancies for example, the placenta growing into the scar on the uterus which can lead to severe bleeding.
- Risk of the baby having breathing problems.
- Increased likelihood of the baby having feeding problems.



Please don't hesitate to ask for a Next Birth After Caesarean Section information package. Additional information can also be accessed from the following websites:

[www.childbirthconnection.org](http://www.childbirthconnection.org)

[www.vbac.com](http://www.vbac.com)

[www.birthrites.org](http://www.birthrites.org)

**YOUR MIDWIFE OR DOCTOR WILL BE HAPPY TO TALK THROUGH YOUR OPTIONS AND CHOICES AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.**