



Water birthing:

The purpose of this regulation is to provide safe, evidence-based care to women choosing to use a birthing pool for labour and/or birth. The following should be considered:

- The Delivery room will require direct access to a water pool area; this may be integrated within Delivery room. Make sure to have an easy flow access and circulation around the pool.
- Birth pools can be either permanently installed or portable as per the manufacturer's specifications.
- Provision of surface that should be non-slip, anti-bacterial, nonporous, moisture resistance, smooth, has no crevice or seams, and easy to clean.
- Provision of grab rails for patients.
- Provision of conveniently located emergency call and patient/nurse call buttons.
- Provision of medical gases including nitrous oxide and oxygen used for pain relief to the pool area.
- Provision of sufficient space and area to enable a patient lifter and staff to access around the pool.
- Baths should ideally be accessible from at least two sides, and shall be easily accessed.
- Taps and drains should be of sufficient size to allow efficient filling and emptying of the pool.
- Ongoing cleaning and disinfection of the pool before and after.
- The pool should be regularly maintained.
- Routine testing of the hospital water supply should be applied.
- Consideration should be given to ensure that the pool temperature is controlled at the time of the birth.

- The facility is equipped with a proper mechanical air- ventilation system: the space shall provide supply and return duct diffusers (The temperature shall be controlled).
- All staffs should be trained and ensure that their knowledge and skills are up-to-date.