



Bassett Healthcare Network Bassett Medical Center

CONGRATULATIONS: You're about to become parents What to Expect From Your Birth Experience at Bassett

We at the Bassett Birthing Center are here to make sure that when you have your baby it is the safest, most enjoyable experience possible. Our team of skilled medical professionals is focused on providing a family-centered experience in a safe and caring environment during what will assuredly be an exciting time in your life.

As a patient of Bassett, you will be a full participant in your care. Our Women's Health providers see patients in Cooperstown, Oneonta, Cobleskill, Hamilton and Herkimer, whichever site is most convenient for you and your family. Each site is staffed by an obstetric provider (nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, physician) as well as nurses specially trained in providing prenatal care. We encourage at least one visit to the Women's Health clinic at Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown so that you are familiar with the location of the hospital in preparation for your delivery. This will also allow you to get to know some of the other providers who may be present at your baby's birth. We welcome you and your support person(s) to be involved in your prenatal care experience as much as possible. In the event the pregnancy is considered high risk, the patient may be referred to the Regional Perinatal Center at Albany Medical Center if our professional team believes this is the safest place for the mom and baby.

Your Baby's Birth

The Bassett Birthing Center, newly renovated in 2010, features one of the most modern and family-centric designs for the birth experience. Our Labor, Delivery and Recovery (LDR) rooms contain a birthing bed, whirlpool tub, shower, state of the art newborn monitoring equipment, and an island for immediate newborn care. We have available to all patients birthing balls, birthing bars and birthing stools. We proudly support vaginal birth after cesarean section (VBAC), and have one of the lowest C-section rates in New York State. There is an operating room located in the Birthing Center for any scheduled or unplanned cesarean deliveries. After your birth, you will be moved to one of our private postpartum rooms, furnished with a glider and couch for your comfort and that of your support person. Rooming in with your baby is strongly encouraged.

Your Care Providers

Taken as a whole, the labor and delivery team at Bassett provides a level of care not commonly available in Central New York. The care team includes:

Registered Nurses (RNs): Experienced in caring for women during the birthing process and their babies after birth. They are all experienced in assisting with breast feeding and any of the needs of the mother and her family.

Obstetricians/ Hospitalists: Physicians specially trained in childbirth and available to handle both routine and high risk deliveries. They also provide oversight to the certified nurse midwives for emergency or complicated situations.

Bassett's Hospitalist Program is a nationally recognized approach to birthing center care. While the obstetrician may deliver babies and also have clinic hours to see women for prenatal or gynecological care, the hospitalist works full time in the hospital. This approach to the care allows the hospitalist to handle all overnight deliveries at Bassett and devote his entire attention to the welfare of mother and baby. **Because of this, you may be with someone different at your delivery than you saw for prenatal care. However, the close collaboration among members of our labor and delivery team and Bassett's integrated electronic medical record system assure that the provider delivering your baby has all of the information vital to your care and that of your baby.**

Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs): Provide care for low risk pregnancies. Midwives may also care for women who have complications or are at higher risk by working closely with our obstetricians/hospitalists.

Anesthesiologists: Physicians who specialize in providing different modes of anesthesia to patients. They provide oversight to the CRNAs.

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs): Dedicated to providing pain relief and anesthesia for patients who desire it. They are available to patients in the Birthing Center 24 hours a day.

Pediatricians: Physicians who specialize in the care of newborns and children. They provide oversight to the pediatric nurse practitioner

Pediatric Nurse Practitioners: Specially trained in caring for pediatric patients. They examine your baby after delivery and provide immediate support to any newborn having difficulties in addition to well newborn care.

Physician Assistants (PAs): Work with the obstetricians on cesarean deliveries and caring for patients after surgery.

The Birthing Center at Bassett follows the recommendations put forth by the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Association of Certified Nurse Midwives. Please visit our website at www.bassett.org to learn more about our providers and our practice.