AIMS For a better birth...

Midwifery care?

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AIMS recently received the following letter...

I had my midwife appointment today and I feel so frustrated with the way she treated me.

We had to go over my birth plan and so I showed her the plan I did and she reacted as if I had done some sort of quick research online and have no idea what I am talking about.

She made a sarcastic comment when checking the baby's heart rate, *'Hey baby sounds like your mum has definitely figured out what she'd like to do with you*!' And she told me things like:

- *not opting for induction after 41 weeks is just silly as the placenta is old and I am putting the baby at risk so she said, 'we'll definitely want to induce you at that stage. You can refuse but we will make it ver y difficult for you with asking you to be here daily for EFM checks.'*
- *'If labour isn't progressing quick enough, we will break your waters as that's an easy way to get things going again.'*
- *'We need to do vaginal exams of course, how else can we measure your progress?'*
- *'You can only opt for physiological third stage if you are not bleeding, otherwise we might have to just give you the hormone and apologise for it afterwards...'*
- *'If you have an emergency C-section, [your husband] won't be allowed in the theatre as the hospital staff don't like it when a man comes in as they often pass out!'*
- *'Vacuum extraction is only possible if baby is far down enough in the canal otherwise forceps will be safest and so that's what we'd use.'*
- *'Never heard of vaginal seeding and that's not a procedure here so a simple skin to skin if all is well after csection will be allowed.'*