



DECISION MAKING

during labor

When faced with a change of plans during labor, first ask "Is this an emergency?"
If not, you have time to make your decision! Now you can ask:

B

BENEFITS

What are the benefits to this procedure/intervention/test?
How will this help me, my baby, or my labor?
How likely is it that I will experience these benefits?

R

RISKS

What are the risks to this procedure/intervention/test?
How might this impact me, my baby, or my labor?
How likely is it that I will experience these risks? If I agree to this, what else must I agree to?

A

ALTERNATIVES

Are there any alternatives to this suggestion?
Can we try something else instead? Why or why not?
Can I talk to someone else about this?

I

INSTINCT

What does mine and my partner's instinct say about this option?
Does this make sense to me? Does this help me achieve my birth goals?
Is there a chance I will regret this?

N

NOTHING

What happens if we do nothing?
Does this decision need to be made, or can we wait and see?
Can we wait an hour or more to make our decision?

S

SPACE

Can we have space to talk about our options together?
Can we have time alone to process our emotions about this?
Can we talk in private with our doula before deciding?