

# Minimise the Risk of Obstetric Injury to Mothers

'The Episcissors-60 are designed to guide an accurate mediolateral episiotomy at 60 degrees to the perineal midline. They provide an alternative to standard episiotomy scissors, for which the cutting angle must be estimated.' (NICE MIB33).

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (GTG29)<sup>6</sup> recommends that cuts need to be at 60 degrees to reduce the incidence of poor patient outcomes, reconstructive surgery and litigation costs. The use of the angled scissors in episiotomies therefore should improve patient experience and outcomes.

NICE has produced a briefing with further information and evidence:

[www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mtg26](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mtg26)

For more information, please contact [kim.morrissey@swahsn.com](mailto:kim.morrissey@swahsn.com)

**Reduces Error**

Aims to remove human error when estimating episiotomy angles during childbirth and therefore reducing incidence for repair, postoperative care and legal pay-outs.

**Practical**

They have a guide-limb that is aligned vertically to the anus. The scissor blades constantly maintain a 60 degree angle from the guide-limb.

**Money Back**

You buy the device and NHS England will give you money back each time the scissors are used.

Approximately 15% of all births in England require an episiotomy. 30,000 cases of obstetric anal sphincter injury occur each year, often due to misjudging the angle of the surgical cut.



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