

Name:

Chapter 5 (The Inpatient Ward) My Daughter's Arrival

Story A

Hi Hana,

Congratulations on your cute new nephew! Thanks for the lovely 1) _____ . Your brother's family looks very happy.

In Sweden, we go to a local maternity 2) _____ when pregnant, instead of going to a hospital. Usually we don't see a doctor if the pregnancy is 3) _____ . A midwife assigned to us gives regular consultations and support—checking uterine growth or the baby's 4) _____ , giving blood tests and prescribing iron pills in the case of anemia, etc.

There are no medical fees for regular pregnancy 5) _____ or for delivery in Sweden. We can have the midwife's consultation once a month after 6) _____ weeks of our first pregnancy, or after 7) _____ weeks if we have had children before.

Between 16-20 weeks of pregnancy, we go to our regional general hospital and have 8) _____ tests. At this time, I got a DVD of a moving image of the baby inside me!

During the later stages of pregnancy, both parents attend classes about the birth and care of their baby. I hear that more than 9) _____ % of partners are present during the child's birth in Sweden. Partners can be present even if it is a Caesarian section, and not a 10) _____ birth.



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Story B

When you are hospitalized to have a baby, your partner's 1) _____ will also be prepared upon your request. If there is no problem during the delivery, a midwife and a nurse will be 2) _____ without a doctor. If you need anesthesia when giving birth, you can choose from various kinds.

I'll never forget the moment when Karin was born. In Sweden, we think it is very 3) _____ for the family to be alone for a while after the baby is born. The medical staff left us alone immediately when they finished the treatments after 4) _____. Our naked baby was on my belly. My husband and I enjoyed a peaceful time with the baby for more than 5) _____.

Karin weighed 6) _____ grams. This was heavier than 3,400 grams, the average weight for Swedish newborns. I think Swedish babies are generally bigger than Japanese babies. Adults in Sweden are generally larger than Japanese adults with an average height of over 7) _____ cm for men and 8) _____ cm for women.

You can register your baby's name with the government anytime 9) _____ months, so some babies are nameless for a while. You can usually leave the hospital 10) _____ or 11) _____ days after the delivery. Then, it's time to start life with your new baby!

Lotta

