Medical Termination

Little Things & Co.
The baby bereavement charity
Medical termination is the clinical term when a parent or parents choose to end their pregnancy because they have been given the news their child has a condition that is not compatible with life or with a life limiting condition.

There are various ‘terms’ for this process however at Little Things & Co. we use ‘compassionate induction’.

The choice you have made for your child was compassionate.

If you have chosen a compassionate induction for your child then you are probably feeling a range of emotions right now. You may be asking ‘what if the professionals got it wrong?’. This is understandable and a valid question to ask. It is reasonable for you to question everything right now. Before information is given to you it is checked and double checked. You are only given this information when the professionals caring for you are completely certain the outcome they have explained is definite.

You may also be feeling guilty. Guilt is a natural reaction for any parent who has had to make such a decision.

As parents, and you are a parent, we make decisions that are best for our children.

Although the option of compassionate induction is given to you as a choice really there is no choice. It is an impossible decision. As a parent you put your child’s wellbeing first – and this is exactly what you have done.

You may also be feeling judged. There are parts of society who do not agree with compassionate induction, under any circumstances. However we firmly believe that sometimes this is a decision that has to be made. We are here to support you and reiterate to you that the choice you have made was made from love and because you have decided to do what is best for your child – regardless of how difficult that is.

Seeing your baby
You may have mixed emotions about whether or not you wish to see your baby.

This is entirely your decision. Some people find it comforting to spend time with their child, holding and being close to them. However this is a personal decision and one only you can make as an individual. The professionals caring for you will be able to offer advice on whether or not they believe this is advisable, but ultimately the final decision is yours.

Funeral
You may wish to organise a funeral for your baby. This can be arranged either through your hospital or directly with a Funeral Director.

Your baby deserves the same as any other child so please make arrangements to suit you and your family.

Do not let anyone ever make you think that because you ‘choose’ a compassionate induction, your baby does not deserve to be given a funeral.
Things to remember
You have not done anything wrong. Although society may suggest you had a ‘choice’ in what to do for your child there really is no ‘choice’.

You have decided to put your child first, as a good parent, and do what is best for your child.

You have nothing to feel guilty about.

Your baby was wanted, loved and you were eagerly awaiting their arrival. Therefore your grieving is valid.

No-one can make judgement on you. This was the decision you made for your family.

At Little Things and Co. we believe that every baby regardless of gestation, circumstance or how long ago should be acknowledged, honoured and remembered.

If you would like to discuss anything you have read within this leaflet or talk to one of our team please do not hesitate to get in touch.

For more information:
E: info@ltandco.org
W: www.ltandco.org

Little Things & Co. CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales.
Charity registration number: 1165463