

Your Right To Have A Doula

Artesia General Hospital



What is a Doula?

A doula is a trained, non-medical support person who provides emotional, physical, and informational support during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period.



Your Rights as a Patient

At Artesia General Hospital, you have the right to:

- **Choose your own doula** to support you during your care
- Have your doula stay with you during labor and delivery, when medically appropriate
- Receive support from your doula during your hospital stay related to pregnancy and childbirth
- Be treated with respect for your preferences, culture, and birth experience

Your doula is considered **your support person**, not a hospital employee.



Important Information

- Doulas **do not provide medical care**
- Doulas must follow hospital safety and infection prevention guidelines
- Doulas will work together with your care team to support you
- If a safety concern arises, hospital staff may ask the doula to adjust their activities



During Your Stay

- You may have a doula present in addition to your designated support person (based on clinical circumstances)
- In certain situations (such as surgery or anesthesia), there may be limits on who can be present for safety reasons



Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions about having a doula with you, please speak with:

- Your nurse
- Your provider
- Or ask to speak with the **Social Worker**

Artesia General Hospital **AGH**

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