

FOR BCCNM REGISTERED MIDWIVES

Policy on active practice requirements

Introduction

Active practice requirements are intended to ensure the initial consolidation of midwifery skills in the provision of intrapartum care. These include attending labour and birth as the principal midwife and most responsible primary care provider in a hospital and out-of-hospital/home birth setting. This policy outlines the active practice requirements for midwives within their first three (3) years of registration in British Columbia.

Requirements

Midwives shall meet the following active practice requirements during their first three (3) years of registration:

1. The provision of midwifery care during labour and birth to at least forty (40) clients as principal midwife or second attendant midwife in British Columbia or in another jurisdiction in Canada where midwifery is regulated, including:
 - a. The provision of midwifery care during labour and birth, as principal midwife, for at least ten (10) births occurring in a hospital.
 - b. The provision of midwifery care during labour and birth, as principal midwife, for at least ten (10) births occurring in an out-of-hospital/home setting.
2. Midwives must submit a written report to BCCNM at the end of their active practice period, or as soon as they have met the active practice requirements.

If the requirements are not met

Midwives will be notified if they have not met their active practice requirements. Once notified, they are required to make a written submission to BCCNM within thirty (30) days.

Midwives who have not met requirements are assessed on a case-by-case basis taking into account individual circumstances, practice environment, education and relevant clinical experience. They may be required to complete an active practice plan to ensure consolidation of midwifery skills.

If a midwife is working in a community where the hospital does not have caesarean section capabilities, the midwife may request to have births attended in that facility count toward the out-of-hospital/home birth requirement.

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