

Health Professions Act
MIDWIVES REGULATION

[includes amendments up to B.C. Reg. 155/2009, April 9, 2009]

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Definitions

1 In this regulation:

"**Act**" means the *Health Professions Act*;

"**aboriginal**" means relating to the Indian, Inuit or Métis peoples of Canada;

"**aboriginal midwifery**" means

- (a) traditional aboriginal midwifery practices including the use and administration of traditional herbs and medicines and other cultural and spiritual practices,
- (b) contemporary aboriginal midwifery practices which are based on, or originate in, traditional aboriginal midwifery practices, or
- (c) a combination of traditional and contemporary aboriginal midwifery practices;

"**barbiturate**" means a barbiturate specified in Item 1 or 2 of Schedule IV of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada);

"**compound**" means to mix with one or more other ingredients;

"**dispense**" has the same meaning as in the *Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act*, but excludes a sale as defined in that Act;

"**Drug Schedules Regulation**" means the Drug Schedules Regulation, B.C. Reg. 9/98;

"**hospital**" has the same meaning as in the *Hospital Act*;

"midwifery" means the health profession in which a person provides the following services during normal pregnancy, labour, delivery and the post-partum period:

- (a) assessment, monitoring and care for women, newborns and infants, including the carrying out of appropriate emergency measures when necessary;
- (b) counselling, supporting and advising women, including provision of advice and information regarding care for newborns and infants;
- (c) conducting internal examinations of women, performing episiotomies and amniotomies and repairing episiotomies and simple lacerations;
- (d) contraceptive services for women during the 3 months following a birth;

"midwifery diagnosis" means a clinical judgment of a woman's mental or physical condition, or that of her newborn, to determine whether

- (a) the condition can be ameliorated or resolved by services that the registrant is authorized to provide, or
- (b) consultation with, or transfer of responsibility for care to, another health professional is necessary or appropriate;

"narcotic" has the same meaning as in the Narcotic Control Regulations made under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)*;

"nurse practitioner" has the same meaning as in the Nurses (Registered) and Nurse Practitioners Regulation, B.C. Reg. 284/2008;

"parenteral instillation" means instillation directly into the blood stream;

"prescribe" means to issue a prescription as defined in the *Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act*;

"reserve" means a reserve as defined in the *Indian Act (Canada)*;

"substance" includes air and water, but excludes

- (a) a drug specified in Schedule I, IA, II or IV of the Drug Schedules Regulation, and
- (b) a barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance;

"targeted substance" has the same meaning as in the Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations made under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)*.

[am. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 1.]

College name

- 2 The name "College of Midwives of British Columbia" is the name of the college established under section 15 (1) of the Act for midwifery.

Reserved title

- 3 The title "midwife" is reserved for exclusive use by registrants.

Scope of practice

- 4 (1) A registrant may practise midwifery.
(2) An aboriginal registrant may practise aboriginal midwifery.

[en. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 2.]

Restricted activities

- 5 (1) A registrant in the course of practicing midwifery may do any of the following:
 - (a) make a midwifery diagnosis identifying a condition as the cause of signs or symptoms of an individual;
 - (b) perform a procedure on tissue below the dermis or below the surface of a mucous membrane, for the purposes of
 - (i) performing episiotomies or amniotomies,
 - (ii) repairing episiotomies or simple lacerations, or
 - (iii) taking a swab or specimen required for a screening or diagnostic test;
 - (c) insert acupuncture needles under the skin for the purpose of pain relief during labour or the post-partum period;
 - (d) for the purpose of collecting a blood sample, perform venipuncture;
 - (e) for the purpose of wound care during the post-partum period, administer a solution by irrigation;
 - (f) administer a substance by
 - (i) injection,
 - (ii) inhalation, or
 - (iii) parenteral instillation

for the purposes of

- (iv) pain relief,
 - (v) preventing or treating dehydration or blood loss,
 - (vi) resuscitation or other emergency measures, or
 - (vii) other purposes as required for midwifery practice;
- (g) put an instrument or a hand or finger
- (i) beyond the point in the nasal passages where they normally narrow, for the purpose of suctioning a newborn,
 - (ii) beyond the pharynx, for the purpose of intubating a newborn,
 - (iii) beyond the opening of the urethra, for the purpose of catheterization of a woman during labour or the post-partum period,
 - (iv) beyond the labia majora, for the purposes of
 - (A) conducting internal examinations of women,
 - (B) performing episiotomies or amniotomies,
 - (C) repairing episiotomies or simple lacerations, or
 - (D) conducting the vacuum-assisted emergency delivery of a baby,
 - (v) beyond the anal verge, for the purposes of
 - (A) assessing perineal repairs,
 - (B) administering a substance, or
 - (C) assisting in the emergency delivery of a baby, or
 - (vi) into an artificial opening into the body, for the purpose of assisting in the surgical delivery of a baby;
- (h) manage labour or normal, spontaneous vaginal delivery of a baby;
- (i) apply ultrasound for the purpose of fetal heart monitoring;
- (j) give an instruction or authorization for another person to apply, to a named individual, ultrasound for diagnostic or imaging purposes, including any application of ultrasound to a fetus;
- (k) in respect of a drug specified in Schedule I or IA of the Drug Schedules Regulation or a barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance, if the drug,

barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance is prescribed by a medical practitioner,

- (i) compound the drug, barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance,
- (ii) dispense the drug, barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance, or
- (iii) administer the drug, barbiturate, narcotic or targeted substance by any method;

(l) in respect of a drug specified in Schedule I of the Drug Schedules Regulation, if included in a category described in Schedule A or B to this regulation,

- (i) prescribe the drug,
- (ii) compound the drug,
- (iii) dispense the drug, or
- (iv) administer the drug by any method;

(m) in respect of a drug specified in Schedule II of the Drug Schedules Regulation,

- (i) prescribe the drug,
- (ii) compound the drug,
- (iii) dispense the drug, or
- (iv) administer the drug by any method.

(1.1) Only a registrant may provide a service that includes the performance of an activity set out in subsection (1).

(2) Subsection (1.1) does not apply on a reserve to an aboriginal person who practised aboriginal midwifery prior to March 15, 1995.

[am. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 3.]

Limits or conditions on services and restricted activities

- 6** (1) A registrant must consult with a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner regarding any deviations from the normal course of pregnancy, labour, delivery and the post-partum period that indicate pathology and transfer responsibility for care to another health professional when necessary or appropriate.
- (2) A registrant may provide a service that includes the performance of an activity described in section 5 (1) (c), (g) (iv) (D) or (g) (vi) only if the registrant has successfully completed a certification program established, required or approved under the bylaws

to ensure registrants are qualified and competent to provide the service and perform the activity.

(3) A registrant may perform an activity described in section 5 (1) (k) only after consulting with a medical practitioner, unless the registrant is authorized under section 5 (1) (l) and subsections (4) and (5) of this section to perform the activity.

(4) A registrant may perform an activity described in 5 (1) (l) in respect of a drug included in a category of drugs set out in

(a) Column 1 of Schedule A, only for a purpose shown opposite in Column 2 of Schedule A, and

(b) Column 1 of Schedule B, only for a purpose shown opposite in Column 2 of Schedule B.

(5) A registrant may perform an activity described in section 5 (1) (l) under subsection (4) (b) only if the registrant has successfully completed a certification program established, required or approved under the bylaws to ensure registrants are qualified and competent to provide the service and perform the activity.

(6) A registrant may perform an activity described in section 5 (1) (k) to (m) only in respect of a woman or her newborn, as the case may be, during pregnancy, labour, delivery or the post-partum period.

[en. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 4.]

Patient relations program

7 The college is designated for the purposes of section 16 (2) (f) of the Act.

Schedules 1 and 2

Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 5.]

Schedule A

[en. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 5.]

<p style="text-align: center;">Column 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Category Description</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Column 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Purposes</p>
<p>Antibiotics</p>	<p>intra-partum chemoprophylaxis for Group B strep</p> <p>treatment of topical infection</p> <p>treatment of breast infection</p> <p>treatment of urinary tract infection</p> <p>prophylaxis of ophthalmia neonatorum</p>

Anaesthetics	<p>performance of episiotomies</p> <p>repair of episiotomies and lacerations</p> <p>treatment of topical inflammation</p> <p>localized pain prophylaxis</p>
Anti-fungals	treatment of candidiasis
Anti-nauseants / Anti-emetics	treatment of nausea and vomiting
Anti-virals	<p>suppression of viral infections during pregnancy</p> <p>and the post-partum period, excluding HIV/AIDS</p> <p>management</p>
Corticosteroids	treatment of skin inflammation and haemorrhoids
Galactagogues	enhancement of breast milk production
Histamine antagonists	treatment of anaphylaxis related to the administration of drugs, vaccines or sera
Immune globulins	<p>prophylaxis in the neonate</p> <p>prophylaxis or treatment of the woman in pregnancy</p> <p>or the postpartum period</p>
Inhalants	pain relief in labour or the immediate postpartum period
Narcotic antagonists	reversal of narcotic-induced depression
Nitrates	treatment of hypertonic uterine contractions with non-reassuring fetal status
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories	relief of inflammation and pain
Sympathomimetics	<p>treatment of anaphylaxis or allergic reaction following</p> <p>the administration of a drug, vaccine or serum</p> <p>neonatal resuscitation</p>

Uterotonic agents	prophylaxis and treatment of uterine atony and postpartum haemorrhage
Vaccines	establishing an immune response
Vitamin and mineral supplements	nutritional therapy and support

Schedule B

[en. B.C. Reg. 155/2009, s. 5.]

Column 1 Category Description	Column 2 Purposes
Antibiotics	treatment of infection not included in Schedule A
Anti-virals	HIV/AIDS management
Cervical ripening agents	induction of labour
Contraceptives	prevention of conception
Epidural analgesia (continuous infusion maintenance)	pain relief during labour and delivery, in a hospital only
Oxytocin (intravenous infusion)	induction or augmentation of labour, in a hospital only

[Provisions of the *Health Professions Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 183, relevant to the enactment of this regulation: section 12 (2)]