



POLICY ON SHARED PRIMARY CARE

To provide care consistent with CMBC's *Continuity of Care Policy, Standards of Practice* and the *Midwifery Model of Practice*, primary care is normally shared by a small group of up to four midwives. In circumstances, such as where there is a solo practice, a rural practice or a small practice serving a large geographic area, the College of Midwives of British Columbia (CMBC) endorses arrangements where primary care is shared by a midwife and a physician or nurse practitioner.

Midwives entering shared primary care arrangements with physicians or nurse practitioners must share CMBC's *Continuity of Care Policy, Standards of Practice* and the *Midwifery Model of Practice* with the other practitioners and discuss their practical implications for sharing primary care¹. Client must be informed of any shared primary care arrangements. If a group of primary care providers wishes to provide primary perinatal care in an alternative model, with allowable exceptions to the *Standards of Practice*, they must apply and be approved by CMBC under CMBC's *Policy on Alternate Practice Arrangements*.

¹ For example, whether physicians will be involved in attending home births, and if not, how choice of birth place will be supported.