

## Statement of Clinical Protocol

Section	Administrative	Sub-Section	If applicable
Protocol	Extra Midwife on Call (EMC)	Protocol #	1.1
Distribution	Practice Directors, Registered Midwives of Diversity Midwives (Staff Midwives), Students at Diversity Midwives	Page(s)	2
Issued	December 8, 2020	Due to be reviewed	2022
Effective	December 15, 2020	Revision	#

### 1.0 Purpose:

To have an “Extra Midwife On-Call (EMC)” each week, to assist the on call midwife team. To ensure clinical care is provided in a safe manner by well rested midwives. To allow for sleep relief when needed and requested by an on call midwife. To help preserve the option of Home Birth and Toronto Birth Center Births for Diversity Midwives clients.

### 2.0 Background:

Each week, Diversity Midwives has a team of “On Call” midwives to provide the following care; urgent prenatal concerns, intrapartum care, post-partum care, newborn care and urgent post-partum and/or newborn concerns.

The acuity of the care needed each week cannot be accurately predicted ahead of time, due to the nature of obstetrics. Having an EMC, will allow for emergency coverage, when needed by the On Call Team.

### 3.0 Protocol:

#### MANAGEMENT

- The Committee responsible to draft the EMC schedule consists of a representative from each team (members may change over time)
- Each Team will always have their schedules finalized 6 months ahead of time, on a rolling basis, and forward to the scheduling committee.
- Midwives may choose either their Clinic Week or Off Week for EMC scheduling. This will allow for more availability for EMC scheduling amongst all midwives.

- Every effort will be made to ensure all midwives will be scheduled for the same number of EMC weeks, per fiscal year. There may be *slight* differences in the number of weeks assigned to midwives, due to the nature of scheduling. This will not be a reason to adjust the weeks assigned in future fiscal years.
- In times of a pandemic, having adequate human resources may be a challenge. Coverage for midwives that need to be off will first be explored within the midwife’s base team. If coverage cannot be arranged within the base team, then coverage will be provided by the EMC.
- In times of overall reduced client caseload, the need for the EMC maybe put on hold for a specified amount of time. This decision will be discussed at a practice meeting, and collectively agreed upon by the midwives.

CRITERIA FOR USE

The EMC will be called upon for the following uses:

- To assist with prenatal or post-partum home visits
- To attend births as the back-up midwife
- To attend births as the primary midwife in cases of sleep relief or simultaneous births.

***\*\*\*The on call team will only call on the EBC to cover in the role of primary midwife when all other coverage options within the on call team have been exhausted\*\*\****

COMMUNICATION PLAN/STRATEGY

- Each week, the EMC person will identify themselves on the **Slack** Communication tool, “On Call Midwives” Channel
- The on call team, via Slack will keep everyone updated as to the current activity and acuity of Diversity Midwives clients.
- When a midwife or the on call team is in need of assistance from the EMC, it will be discussed on the designated Slack channel, and a plan put in place.
- Midwives of the On Call Team, will try as much as possible to give early notice of the needed assistance , so the EMC can plan accordingly.

**4.0 Policy Changes:**

Policy #	Approval Date	Describe Change(s)
TBD	December 15 2020	First Version of this policy