

Conditions for Safe Practice

Practice Group Name: Diversity Midwives

STANDARD:	Practice Protocols
APPROVED BY:	Council
DATE APPROVED:	January 12 2016
DATE TO BE REVIEWED:	
REVISION DATE(S):	June 6, 2019
EFFECTIVE DATE:	June 6, 2019
ATTACHMENTS:	

BACKGROUND

- Working or being awake for >24 hours is recognized as carrying a significant risk of impairment

MIDWIFERY ASSESSMENTS

- Midwives assess their own condition and their need to be relieved, taking into consideration that risk of impairment may occur before 24 hours.
- The on-call team will participate in the assessment of their colleagues needs for off call time

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

INFORMED CHOICE DISCUSSION

- Midwives are expected to include in their prenatal discussions with clients information about the arrangements for relief coverage among midwives during labour and birth

COMPLIMENTARY THERAPIES

COMMUNICATION/PLAN

- communicate the need for relief in a timely manner
- utilize the appropriate communication tool ie. BBM, cell phone, pager to notify the on call team of relief needs and plan

CLINICAL MANAGEMENT REFLECTING CLIENT CHOICE

- Midwives will be supported by the on-call midwife team to create a culture of safety
- The on-call team will create an appropriate relief plan for on-call midwives who require time off call. This includes a minimum of 4 hours off call and ideally 8 hours off call.

- The sleep room at the hospital and TBC is provided as a resource to support midwives
- Midwives are strongly encouraged to follow existing protocols for calling for relief, and to take into account the judgment of better-rested midwives about client care and their own need to be relieved of responsibility for it

CONSULTATION, TRANSFER OF CARE

- Midwives are responsible to provide appropriate hand-off, also known as transfer of accountability, when a relief midwife comes to assume care of the client. If no midwife relief is possible, the client will have to be transferred to the on-call obstetrician.

DOCUMENTATION

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

APPENDIX/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REFERENCES

1. "CMO Conditions for Safe Practice Discussion Paper". College of Midwives of Ontario. November, 2006.
<http://www.cmo.on.ca/downloads/CMOConditionsforSafePracticeDiscussionPaperMemComm.pdf>. Accessed March 13, 2013
2. "Safe Practice and Relief for Midwives". Toronto Birth Centre. November 14, 2013. Policy Number G.05.6
3. "The Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP). www.ismp-canada.org. May 2010