

Standard:	Minor Surgical and Invasive Procedures
Approved By:	Council
Date Approved:	April 2015
Date to be Reviewed:	
Effective Date:	September 2016



MINOR SURGICAL and INVASIVE PROCEDURES

For Midwives Practicing in Newfoundland and Labrador

The practice of midwifery involves the performance of invasive procedures involving women and babies, and also some minor surgical procedures. Invasive procedures involve puncturing the skin, or proceeding beyond the orifice of a body cavity. Registered midwives have the knowledge and skills to perform the following:

Amniotomy

Urinary catheterization

Rectal examination

Episiotomy and repair

Repair of first and second degree perineal tears, labial and vaginal tears

Internal pelvic examination during pregnancy, labour, birth, the postpartum and in relation to contraception

Speculum examination to assess cervical and vaginal health and obtain necessary specimens to determine the presence of sexually transmitted infections, vaginal infections and cytological changes (Pap test)

Bimanual compression of the uterus in emergency postpartum hemorrhage situation

Fitting cervical caps and diaphragms for contraceptive purposes

Injections of intramuscular, intradermal, subcutaneous, intravenous

Intravenous cannulation and infusion

Venipuncture

Capillary blood sampling-mother and/or neonate

Application of fetal scalp clip

Procedures related to CPR

Procedures related to neonatal resuscitation as outlined in the NRP Manual

Procedures that may be performed in emergency situations as outlined in programs undertaken by midwives (e.g., Emergency Skills Workshop for Midwives (ESW); Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada: Advances in Labour and Risk Management (ALARM); College of Family Physicians of Canada: Advances in Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO); Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada: Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (MORE^{OB}).

The following advanced competencies require the completion of additional approved education.

1. performing vacuum extraction;
2. first surgical assist at cesarean births;
3. suturing of third degree tears;
4. removal of retained placenta;
5. inserting intrauterine contraceptive devices;
6. inserting an umbilical vein catheter in the newborn.