

Standard:	Second Birth Attendant
Approved By:	CMNL
Date Approved:	February 2020
Date to be Reviewed:	February 2023
Effective Date:	February 2020



## **Second Birth Attendant Standard** **For Registered Midwives Practicing in Newfoundland and Labrador**

Every midwifery birth, regardless of location or setting, will be attended by two regulated, qualified individuals; the Primary Midwife and another regulated, qualified person as Second Birth Attendant. Registered Midwives in Newfoundland and Labrador typically work with other Registered Midwives or Registered Nurses in the hospital setting. In the community setting, the preferred second attendant is a Registered Midwife. If one is not available, a Registered Nurse or other regulated health care provider such as a Nurse Practitioner, Physician, Respiratory Therapist, or Paramedic may fulfill the Second Attendant role.

The purpose of this Standard is to set the CMNL requirements for Registered Midwives working with Second Birth Attendants.

1. Registered Midwives working with Second Birth Attendants must be registered as General class without Restrictions.
2. The qualifications for Second Birth Attendant in the community setting must minimally include: current certifications in CPR and NRP, and proficiency in assisting during obstetrical emergencies.
3. When a Second Birth Attendant is not a Registered Midwife in the community, their qualifications must be approved by the CMNL prior to attending a birth by submitting an application (see attached) and supplying current certificates to the CMNL. It is the responsibility of the Registered Midwife and Second Birth Attendant who are working together to make sure these records are up to date with the CMNL.

The CMNL expects that the Registered Midwife will provide clear supervision instructions about the roles and expectations of the Second Birth Attendant during each stage of care as per the direction of HIROC (personal communication, 2020). If the second birth attendant does something contrary to the instruction of the Registered Midwife, insurance coverage will not be extended to the second birth attendant.

The Second Birth Attendant will provide:

- Care as directed by the Registered Midwife
- Support in labour and immediate postpartum to the client and newborn in accordance with their scope of practice
- Necessary care in emergency situations in accordance with their scope of practice
- Support to the Registered Midwife in completing required documentation
- Clear communication to all parties

Standard:	Second Birth Attendant
Approved By:	CMNL
Date Approved:	February 2020
Date to be Reviewed:	February 2023
Effective Date:	February 2020



### Second Birth Attendant Application

Name:
Date of Application:
Dates/time period of anticipated work as Second Attendant:
Job Title and Experience:
NRP Expiry Date (Please provide copy of certificate):
CPR Expiry Date (Please provide copy of certificate):
<p>Second Birth Attendant Declaration:</p> <p>I, _____, understand that it is my responsibility to maintain current NRP and CPR certifications while working as a Second Birth Attendant, and agree to supply current certifications to the CMNL without prompt. I understand that I am working under the direction and supervision of the Registered Midwife and may only work within my level of scope to be covered by the Registered Midwife's HIROC liability insurance.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ : signature.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">CMNL use only</p> <p>Date Received:</p> <p>Date Approved:</p> <p>Approved By:</p>