

MIDWIFERY REGULATORY COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR HOME BIRTH SETTING

The following list is the minimum equipment and supplies that midwives are required to carry to ensure safe home birth practice. Individual midwives may choose to carry additional materials according to their practice location and preferences. Midwives must have access to appropriate communications equipment and transportation.

It is expected that all supplies and equipment will be appropriately sterilised or clean and functional. It is also expected that midwives will use supplies and equipment in accordance with Regulations, MRC policies, best practice and clinical judgement.

EQUIPMENT

- Fetoscope¹
- Doppler fetoscope
- Stethoscope
- Pediatric stethoscope
- Sphygmomanometer with appropriate size cuff(s)
- Thermometer
- Two hemostats
- One pair blunt-end scissors
- One pair of scissors for episiotomy
- Suturing instruments
- Portable suction machine compatible with intubation
- Intubation equipment
- Newborn laryngeal mask airway
- Newborn resuscitation bag and mask
- Pulse oximeter (effective September 1, 2015)
- CO2 detector (effective September 1, 2015)
- Equipment for administration of epinephrine and/or fluids for volume expansion via the umbilical vein (UV)²
- Infant scale

SUPPLIES

- Antiseptic solution
- Sterile gloves
- Non-sterile gloves
- Sterile lubricant
- Syringes (appropriate sizes)
- Needles (appropriate sizes)
- Suture materials
- Urinary catheters
- Urinalysis supplies
- Cord clamps or ties
- Cord blood tubes
- IV catheters and tubing
- Maternal oxygen mask
- Oral airways
- Sharps container

MEDICATIONS

- Oxytocic drugs
- IV fluids
- Local anaesthetic
- Epinephrine (maternal and new born doses)
- Oxygen
- Eye prophylaxis
- Vitamin K

¹ Non-electronic instrument for fetal heart assessment

² Minimally, syringes (for epinephrine 1/10,000 0.1 ml/kg followed by normal saline flush), scalpel, 3-way stop cock & UV cannula or #5 sterile feeding tube. Midwives may carry other supplies and equipment that supports UV cannulation.

A midwife must carry an emergency birth kit whenever she is in attendance with a woman in labour, regardless of stage of labour or planned place of birth. The kit must include:

- 2 hemostats
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 cord clamp
- Gauze
- Oxytocin
- Syringe with needle
- Suction

Adopted by the MRC on March 18, 2009
Amended by the MRC on June 4, 2015