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MIDWIFERY REGULATORY COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA (MRCNS)

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**POLICY ON PRESCRIBING, ORDERING AND ADMINISTERING  
MIFEPRISTONE/MISOPROSTOL UNDER DELEGATION**

Midwives are primary health care providers who provide evidence-based care to client populations with diverse sexual and reproductive health needs, including the provision of care in the normal course of pregnancy, labour and the post-partum period. Abortion is a routine and essential part of healthcare and includes planned and unplanned pregnancy.

**1.3 Prescribing, administering, and ordering other drugs in the profession of midwifery:**

1. a) A midwife registered in active clinical practice by the MRCNS may prescribe, administer, or order any drug or substance that may lawfully be purchased or acquired without a prescription.
2. b) A midwife registered in active clinical practice by the MRCNS may administer, on order of a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia, any drug or substance.
3. c) A midwife registered in active clinical practice by the MRCNS may use in the practice of midwifery, on order of a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia, any drug.

Midwives must adhere to the policies and standards of the Midwifery Regulatory Council. When acting within their scope of practice, mifepristone/misoprostol (abortion pill, medical abortion) can be prescribed, ordered and administered by a registered midwife in active clinical practice under the delegation of a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia.

**Limitations**

Prescribing, ordering and administering medical abortion under delegation and the provision of follow up care if required is not an entry level practice. Registered midwives must obtain specialized training from a MRCNS approved course prior to prescribing, ordering and administering.

**Current MRCNS Approved Certifications**

National Abortion training for primary health providers:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/1048f179-8e60-4bbb-9881-1e7b211ffd3/summary>

University of British Columbia:

<https://ubccpd.ca/learn/learning-activities/course?eventtemplate=729>

or Equivalent Course Approved by the Council

## References

Action Canada: Increasing abortion access in Canada through Midwife-led care 2023:

<https://www.actioncanadashr.org/resources/policy-briefs-submissions/2023-03-07-increasing-abortion-access-canada-through-midwife-led-care>

Canadian Competencies for Midwives:

[https://cmrc-ccosf.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/CMRC%20competencies%20Dec%202020%20FINAL\\_3-e\\_Jan%202022.pdf](https://cmrc-ccosf.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/CMRC%20competencies%20Dec%202020%20FINAL_3-e_Jan%202022.pdf)

Canadian Midwifery Regulatory Council 2020

Canada's Midwifery Abortion Implementation Study:

<https://med-fom-cart-grac.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2018/07/Planning-Canadas-Midwifery-FINAL.pdf>

Canadian Family Physician | Le Médecin de famille canadien } Vol 66: JANUARY : Update on medical abortion:

Ashley Bancsi and Kelly Grindrod

<https://www.cfp.ca/content/cfp/66/1/42.full.pdf>

Prescribing the abortion pill without restrictions is safe and effective: McMaster University 2021

<https://midwiferymasters.mcmaster.ca/prescribing-the-abortion-pill-without-restrictions-is-safe-and-effective/>

**Approved by MRCNS on November 19, 2024**