

MIDWIFERY REGULATORY COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA (MRCNS)

DEFINITION OF “NORMAL” PREGNANCY

Background

A request was made by the Registrar to adopt the College of Ontario Midwives' (CMO) definition of “normal” within the context of a pregnancy as an addendum to the Midwifery Scope of Practice.

Kelly Dobbin, Registrar of the College of Ontario Midwives, has granted permission for the MRCNS to use this definition in full. Received in writing on January 31, 2025.

Rationale

The purpose of this addition is to provide clarity to midwives, the public, and other healthcare professionals how the Midwifery Regulatory Council (MRCNS) defines normal within the context of pregnancy within the midwifery scope of practice.

Definition

Normal means a clinical picture that is considered healthy or uncomplicated. Normal applies to the overall health status of the individual and does not necessarily rule out the presence of a specific condition or indicate the complete absence of abnormal. Normal can include infections, conditions, or clinical presentations requiring monitoring or treatment when the overall health status of the client or newborn is considered healthy or uncomplicated. Determining if a clinical situation is normal requires clinical judgment and may also require diagnostic tests or consultations with other care providers.

References

College of Midwives of Ontario, 3.1 Scope of Practice Statement - Key Concepts and Definitions, 2025.

<https://cmo.on.ca/standards-and-resources/scope-of-practice/#scope>

Approved by the MRCNS on March 18, 2025