



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

**Guidance on Reference Sources to Support the Development  
of Clinical Governance Systems and Structures for the Health  
Service Executive Home Birth Service**

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## **1. Guidance Statement**

The information provided in this document lists the relevant reference sources to support the development of the clinical governance systems and structures.

## **2. Legislation**

This refers to relevant acts and regulations made thereunder that provide key legislation for the clinical governance of the Health Service Executive (HSE) Home Birth Service.

- 2.1 Health Acts, 1947 to 2016 DOHC and regulations made thereunder
- 2.2 Nurses and Midwives Act, DOHC 2011
- 2.3 Maternity and Infant Care Scheme (Health Act, 2004)
- 2.4 National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts, 2012 to 2016
- 2.5 Criminal Justice (Withholding of Information in Respect of Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act, 2012
- 2.6 Protected Disclosures Act, 2014
- 2.7 Data Protection Act, 1988 and Data Protection (Amendment) Act, 2003
- 2.8 Freedom of Information Acts, 1997 to 2014
- 2.9 Notification of Births Act, 1907 and Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915
- 2.10 Judgment Title 2003: O'Brien -v- South Western Area Health Board, Brannick -v- East Coast Area Health Board, Clarke -v- South Western Area Health Board, Lockhart -v- South Western Area Health Board
- 2.11 Public Services Management Act, 2004.
- 2.12 Public Services Management (Recruitment & Appointments) Act, 2004
- 2.13 Protection of Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act, 1998
- 2.14 Child Care Act, 1991 and Child Care (Amendment) Act, 2015
- 2.15 Children First Act, 2015
- 2.16 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations, 2007 (SI 200 of 2007)
- 2.17 The Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act, 2013
- 2.18 Maternity Protection (Amendment) Act, 2004
- 2.19 Maternity and Infant Scheme (Health Act 2004)
- 2.20 European Working Time Directive and the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997.
- 2.21 Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005.
- 2.22 Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 2007
- 2.23 European Union (Prevention of Sharps Injuries in the Healthcare Sector) Regulations, 2014
- 2.24 Guardianship of Infants Act, 1964

## **3. Codes of Practice**

Codes of practice may be underpinned by legislation. The Self-Employed Community Midwife (SECM) will be required to comply with all codes whether underpinned by legislation or professional evidence base.

- 3.1. The Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives (NMBI 2014)
- 3.2. Code of Standards and Behaviour (HSE June 2009)
- 3.3. Code of Practice for Healthcare Records Management Abbreviations (HSE 2010)

- 3.4. Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (Department of Finance 2009 to 2016)
- 3.5. Swift 3000 Code of Practice for Corporate Governance Assessment in Ireland (National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) 2010)

## 4. Standards

Organisations such as the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA), the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and the NMBI have documented standards for nurses and midwives to achieve when practising clinically.

- 4.1. National Standards for Better Healthcare. Dublin: Health Information & Quality Authority (2012).
- 4.2. Practice Standards for Midwives (NMBI 2015)
- 4.3. Practice Standards and Guidelines for Nurses and Midwives with Prescriptive Authority (ABA, 2010)
- 4.4. Standards and Recommended Practices for Healthcare Management Records HSE 2011)
- 4.5. ISO 31000 Risk Management Standards
- 4.6. ISO 9001 Quality Management Standard

## 5. Guidance

The Department of Health (DOH) (Ref: DOH circulars), HSE, State Claims Agency (SCA), National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), Royal College of Midwives (RCM), Institute of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (IOG) and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RCOG) provide guidance on policies, procedures and guidelines to support clinical professionals to comply with legislation, codes of practice and standards in the delivery of safe, quality services.

- 5.1. National Maternity Strategy 2016-2026 (DOH 2016)
- 5.2. MOU and Agreement between the SECM and the HSE (HSE 2014)
- 5.3. State Claims Agency 'Indemnity Statement for Self Employed Community Midwives' 2010 and updated 2014
- 5.4. The Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice Framework (NMBI 2015)
- 5.5. Recording Clinical Practice (NMBI 2015)
- 5.6. Guidance to Nurses and Midwives on Medication Management (An Bord Altranais, 2007)
- 5.7. Guidance to Nurses and Midwives on Social Media and Social Networking (NMBI 2013)
- 5.8. National Institute for Clinical and Health Care Excellence (NICE) Guidelines for Intrapartum Care of Healthy Women and their Babies during Childbirth Clinical Guideline 190 (NICE 2014)
- 5.9. Royal College of Midwives (RCM) Evidence Based Guidelines for Midwifery Led Care in Labour (RCM 2008)
- 5.10. Birthplace, 2011. Birthplace in England Research Programme (Birthplace). National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU), Oxford
- 5.11. The Irish Maternity Early Warning System (IMEWS) NCEC (DOH 2014)
- 5.12. Communication (Clinical Handover) in Maternity Services NCEC (DOH 2014)
- 5.13. Sepsis Management NCEC (DOH 2014)
- 5.14. Delivery on Choice: Homebirth Options for Women in Ireland (HSE 2008)

- 5.15. A Practical Guide to Newborn Bloodspot Screening in Ireland. National Newborn Bloodspot Screening Laboratory, Children's University Hospital Temple Street, Dublin, 6th Edition (HSE 2016)
- 5.16. HSE Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Consent Policy, Procedure, Protocol & Guideline (HSE 2013)
- 5.17. HSE Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programme National Governance Document (HSE 2014)
- 5.18. National Health and Medical Research Council Joint Statement and Recommendation on Vitamin K Administration to Newborn Infants to Prevent Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding in Infancy (NHMRC 2010)
- 5.19. Centre for Maternal and Child Enquiries (CMACE) (2011), Saving Mothers' Lives: Reviewing Maternal Deaths to Make Motherhood Safer: 2006–2008; Volume 118, Supplement 1; JOG.
- 5.20. Children First, National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children. (Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2011)
- 5.21. Perinatal Statistics Report (ESRI 2013)
- 5.22. Clinical Programme Guidelines, HSE Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- 5.23. Quality and Patient Safety Audit of the Compliance of Self-Employed Community Midwives with the Memorandum of Understanding relating to the Provision of Home Birth Services to Eligible Expectant Mothers in 2011 (HSE 2011)
- 5.24. The Induction of Labour, NICE Clinical Guideline 70 (2008)
- 5.25. Hypertension in Pregnancy, NICE Clinical Guideline 107 (2010)
- 5.26. Caesarean Section, NICE Clinical Guideline 132 (2011)
- 5.27. The Irish Maternity Early Warning System (I-MEWS) Clinical Practice Guideline No 25, IO&G RCOP (2013)
- 5.28. Bacterial Sepsis following Pregnancy, Green-top Guideline No 64b RCOG (2012)
- 5.29. Obesity and pregnancy clinical practice guideline, IO&G RCOP (2011)
- 5.30. Investigation and management of late fetal intrauterine death and stillbirth clinical practice guideline, Guideline No. 4, IO&G RCOP (2011)
- 5.31. The diagnosis and management of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia clinical practice guideline, Guideline No. 3, IO&G RCOP (2013)
- 5.32. Delivery after previous caesarean section clinical practice guideline, Guideline No. 5, IO&G RCOP (2011)
- 5.33. Clinical practice guideline: Prevention and management of primary postpartum haemorrhage, Guideline No. 17, IO&G RCOP (2012)
- 5.34. Preterm prelabour rupture of the membranes (PPROM), Guideline No. 24. IO&G RCOP (2013)
- 5.35. The Birthplace in England research programme, final report part 6 from Kings College, London
- 5.36. Guideline for hand hygiene in Irish healthcare settings (HPSC 2015)
- 5.37. Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (HSE 2011)
- 5.38. Policy Statement on Fraud and Corruption – Information and Guidelines for Staff (HSE 2015)
- 5.39. Report of the Maternity and Infant Care Scheme Review Group (1994)
- 5.40. Report to the Chief Executive Officers of the Health Boards, Domiciliary Births Group (2004)
- 5.41. Guidelines for the Management of Pre-gestational and Gestational Diabetes Mellitus from Pre-conception to the Postnatal period. Changing Practice to Support Service Delivery, ONMSD (HSE 2010).
- 5.42. Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and Directorate of Clinical Strategy and Programmes, Health Service Executive (2012) Clinical practice guideline: Management of obstetric anal sphincter injury, Version 1.0, Guideline No. 8

- 5.43. Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Directorate of Strategy and Clinical Programmes, Health Service Executive (2013): The diagnosis and management of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia clinical practice guideline Version 1.0, Guideline No. 5
- 5.44. University Hospital Waterford (2014) Integrated Hospital Community Midwifery Service: Clinical Practice Guidelines
- 5.45. National Maternity Hospital (2012) Clinical Practice Guidelines
- 5.46. Report of the Quality and Safety Clinical Governance Development Initiative: Sharing our Learning (HSE 2014)
- 5.47. Postnatal Care Clinical Guideline: Routine care for women and their babies CG No. 37, (NICE 2006)

## **6. HSE Policies, Procedures & Guidelines**

- 6.1. HSE Procedure for Developing Policies, Procedures, Protocols and Guidelines (HSE 2012)
- 6.2. Quality and Risk Taxonomy Governance Group Report on Glossary of Quality and Risk Terms and Definitions (HSE 2009)
- 6.3. HSE Policy on Certification of Registration of Nurses and Midwives with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland for 2015 (HSE 2014)
- 6.4. Safety Incident Management Policy (HSE 2014)
- 6.5. Guideline for Systems Analysis Investigation of Incidents (HSE 2015)
- 6.6. Serious Reportable Events (HSE Update in January 2015)
- 6.7. Risk and Incident Escalation Procedure (HSE 2010)
- 6.8. HSE Complaints Policy: Your Service Your Say (HSE 2015)
- 6.9. HSE Procedure for Notification of Home Births to the National Ambulance Service (National Ambulance Service HSE, 2015)
- 6.10. National Consent Policy (HSE, 2013)
- 6.11. National Infant Feeding Policy for Maternity & Neonatal Services (HSE 2012)
- 6.12. Policy on Vitamin D Supplementation for Infants in Ireland (HSE 2010)
- 6.13. HSE Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Consent Policy, Procedure, Protocol & Guideline (HSE 2013)
- 6.14. HSE Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programme National Governance Document (HSE 2014)
- 6.15. A Practical Guide to Newborn Bloodspot Screening in Ireland, National Newborn Bloodspot Screening Laboratory, Children's University Hospital Temple Street, Dublin 5th Edition (HSE June 2011)
- 6.16. Vitamin K (Konakion MM® Paediatric) Prophylaxis for Newborn Infants, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Maternity Unit Document RCGP 22 (HSE 2013)
- 6.17. Open Disclosure: National Guidelines (HSE 2013)
- 6.18. Manual Handling and People Handling Policy (HSE 2012)
- 6.19. HSE/Public Health Sector Guidance Document on Supervision for Health and Social Care Professionals: Improving Performance and Supporting Employees (HSE 2015)
- 6.20. Policy for Lone Working (HSE 2012)
- 6.21. Policy for the Prevention and Management of Latex Allergy (HSE 2011)
- 6.22. Social and Digital Media Policy and Guidance for HSE Employees (HSE 2012)
- 6.23. Compliance with Health Sector Pay Policy (September 2013)
- 6.24. Dignity at Work Policy for the Health Service (May 2009)
- 6.25. Disciplinary Procedure for Employees of the Health Service Executive (HSE 2007)

- 6.26. Employee Wellbeing and Welfare Strategy (HSE 2009)
- 6.27. Erasures and Sanctions issued by Regulatory Authorities against HSE Employees (April 2012)
- 6.28. Garda Clearance of New Employees (April 2007)
- 6.29. Garda Vetting and Assessment of Existing Employees in the Health Service (March 2012)
- 6.30. Good Faith Reporting Policy (September 2011)
- 6.31. Grievance and Disciplinary Procedure for the Health Service (May 2004)
- 6.32. Management of Professional Registers and Amendments to such Registers (January 2010)
- 6.33. National Tobacco Free Campus Policy April 2012
- 6.34. National Transfer Policy April 2007
- 6.35. Policy for Preventing and Managing Critical Incident Stress (December 2012)
- 6.36. Policy for Prevention and Management of Stress in the Workplace (December 2012)
- 6.37. Policy on Management of Work Related Aggression and Violence (October 2014)
- 6.38. Protected Disclosures of Information in the Workplace (March 2009)
- 6.39. Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse (HSE 2014)
- 6.40. HSE Risk Assessment Tool and Guidance (HSE 2011)
- 6.41. Risk Management in the HSE: An Information Handbook (HSE 2012)
- 6.42. HSE Electronic Communications Policy (HSE 2013)
- 6.43. National Intercultural Health Strategy (HSE 2007-2012)
- 6.44. Health Service Executive (2011) Guide to Moving and Handling Practices for Midwives. Dublin: HSE.
- 6.45. Health Service Executive (2011) Waste Management Awareness Handbook. Dublin: HSE

## 7. Clinical Programme Guidelines – HSE and Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

Title	Date Published
<a href="#"><u>Ultrasound Diagnosis of Early Pregnancy Loss*</u></a>	Dec 2010
<a href="#"><u>Obesity and Pregnancy</u></a>	June 2011
<a href="#"><u>The Diagnosis and Management of Pre-eclampsia and Eclampsia</u></a>	June 2016
<a href="#"><u>Investigation and Management of Late Fetal Intrauterine Death and Stillbirth</u></a>	Oct 2011
<a href="#"><u>Delivery after Previous Caesarean Section</u></a>	Oct 2011
<a href="#"><u>Intrapartum Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring</u></a>	June 2012
<a href="#"><u>Management of Obstetric Anal Sphincter Injury</u></a>	Apr 2012
<a href="#"><u>Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome (OHSS) Diagnosis and Management</u></a>	Apr 2012
<a href="#"><u>Management of Early Pregnancy Miscarriage*</u></a>	Apr 2012
<a href="#"><u>Clinical Practice Guidelines for the use of Anti D Immunoglobulin for the Prevention of RHD Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn*</u></a>	June 2012
<a href="#"><u>Management of Multiple Pregnancy</u></a>	June 2012
<a href="#"><u>Antenatal Routine Enquiry Regarding Violence in the Home</u></a>	June 2012



<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Published</b>
<a href="#"><u>Management of Pelvic Girdle Pain in Pregnancy and Post-Partum</u></a>	Aug 2012
<a href="#"><u>Prevention and Management of Primary Postpartum Haemorrhage*</u></a>	Nov 2012
<a href="#"><u>Venous Thromboprophylaxis in Pregnancy</u></a>	Feb 2015
<a href="#"><u>Methadone Prescribing and Administration in Pregnancy</u></a>	Apr 2013
<a href="#"><u>Tocolytic Treatment in Pregnancy</u></a>	Apr 2013
<a href="#"><u>Antenatal Magnesium Sulphate for Fetal Neuroprotection</u></a>	Apr 2013
<a href="#"><u>Preterm Prelabour Rupture of Membranes (PPROM)</u></a>	Apr 2013
<a href="#"><u>Irish Maternity Early Warning System (IMEWS)</u></a>	July 2014
<a href="#"><u>Investigation of Postmenopausal Bleeding</u></a>	July 2013
<a href="#"><u>Nutrition During Pregnancy</u></a>	Aug 2013
<a href="#"><u>Fetal Growth Restriction – Recognition, Diagnosis and Management</u></a>	May 2014
<a href="#"><u>The Management of Second Trimester Miscarriage</u></a>	July 2014
<a href="#"><u>Guidelines for the Critically Ill Woman in Obstetrics</u></a>	Aug 2014

<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Published</b>
<a href="#"><u>Parvovirus B19 Exposure/Infection during Pregnancy</u></a>	Sept 2014
<a href="#"><u>Resuscitation for the Pregnant Woman</u></a>	Oct 2014
<a href="#"><u>The Diagnosis and Management of Ectopic Pregnancy</u></a>	Nov 2014
<a href="#"><u>Bacterial Infections Specific to Pregnancy</u></a>	Feb 2015
<a href="#"><u>Cord Prolapse</u></a>	Mar 2015
<a href="#"><u>Chicken Pox in Pregnancy</u></a>	Nov 2015
<a href="#"><u>Hyperemesis and Nausea/Vomiting in Pregnancy</u></a>	Nov 2015
<a href="#"><u>Investigation and Management of Menorrhagia</u></a>	Nov 2015
<a href="#"><u>Listeriosis in Pregnancy</u></a>	Nov 2015
<a href="#"><u>Management of Urinary Tract Infection in Pregnancy</u></a>	Nov 2015
<a href="#"><u>Oxytocin to Accelerate or Induce Labour</u></a>	April 2016
<a href="#"><u>Hypertension in Pregnancy</u></a>	May 2016

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## 9. Signature Page:

I have read, understand and agree to adhere to the attached document:

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