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PRACTICE STANDARD

Certified Midwives: Induction and Augmentation of Labour

Introduction

The *Certified Midwives: Induction and Augmentation of Labour* practice standard applies to midwives who meet BCCNM certification requirements for induction and augmentation of labour.

Under the *Regulated Health Practitioners Regulation*, the *Nurses and Midwives Regulation* (NMR), and the *BCCNM General Bylaws*, midwives who are certified in the induction and augmentation of labour are authorized to perform the following restricted activities in a manner consistent with applicable BCCNM practice standards, including both the BCCNM *Midwives: Medications and Substances* practice standard and this practice standard:

- Insert an instrument, device, finger or hand beyond the labia majora, for the purpose of inducing labour (NMR,s. 70(b)).
- Prescribe, compound, dispense or administer uterotonic agents for the purpose of induction and augmentation of labour for midwifery patients (NMR, s. 70(d) and Appendix 2, Item 6).

A practising midwife licensee who holds certification may use the title "certified midwife," "certified registered midwife," "midwife (certified)," "registered midwife (certified)," or the abbreviation "RM(C)." If a certified midwife wishes to note their specific certification, they may append the term "Induction and Augmentation of Labour Certified."

Standards

1. When inducing or augmenting labour using a device (e.g., balloon intracervical Foley catheter) or uterotonic agent, certified midwives must:
    a. Practise within their individual scope of practice and competence;
    b. Comply with relevant legislation and regulation;
    c. Adhere to BCCNM ethics standards, practice standards, and any applicable limits or conditions;
    d. Follow organizational/practice settings/community policies and processes;
    e. Use current, evidence-informed clinical guidelines;
    f. Document assessment, clinical decision-making, and consent; and
    g. Initiate consultation or transfer of care when indications arise.

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2. Certified midwives may initiate and manage induction or augmentation of labour when:
    a. The client is term with normal maternal and fetal assessments;
    b. There are no indications requiring consultation or transfer of care;
    c. The client has provided informed consent; and
    d. The procedure is performed in a setting with access to appropriate monitoring and supports.

Limits and conditions

1. Midwives who want to obtain certification in Induction and Augmentation must:
    a. Successfully complete the relevant certified practice course(s) recognized by BCCNM[1] or equivalent.[2]
    b. Submit to BCCNM proof of a competency-based skills assessment from a BC hospital.
2. A certified midwife must not administer prostaglandin or initiate oxytocin induction/augmentation of labour with a client who has a history of previous cesarean section or uterine surgery without a physician consultation.

Revision history

Version #	Approved by board	Bylaw in-force	Description
1.0	March 1, 2026	April 1, 2026	Initial publication
2.0	Sept. 14, 2026	As above	Revised standards and limits and conditions to align with NMR
3.0	Nov. 18, 2026	Dec. 18, 2026	Removed names of recognized education programs; added "or equivalent" to L&C #1

Effective April 1, 2026, this practice standard, and any amendments to it, is made a bylaw under the authority of the *Health Professions and Occupations Act, B.C.*

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[1] BCCNM recognized certified practice courses can be found here.

[2] For further information, contact Licensing at registermidwives@bccnm.ca.