

CLINICAL STUDENT SUPERVISION

STANDARD

Purpose

The purpose of this Standard is to set out the College's requirements for midwives supervising students.

Definitions

A *preceptor* is a midwife that supervises a student.

A *student* is a person enrolled in a midwifery education program or the International Midwifery Pre-registration Program.

A *conflict of interest* exists when a preceptor's personal relationship with a student improperly influences the preceptor's professional judgment, which may compromise the quality of the student's learning and client care and safety.

Standard

Preceptors must facilitate safe and effective learning opportunities for students while simultaneously protecting clients and the public.

Preceptors must be a role model of integrity and leadership, facilitate the student's learning and provide opportunities for consolidating their knowledge. They must also provide honest and objective assessments of the student's competence

Preceptors must remain fully accountable for the care provided by the student to the client.

To supervise students, preceptors must meet the following criteria:

- be registered in the general class without new registrant conditions
- cannot be in a conflict of interest with the student they are supervising, which includes supervising a relative or a person with whom they have a close or intimate relationship
- must have the capacity to support the orientation and mentorship of students to the practice and hospital environments

In addition, preceptors must:

- obtain informed consent from a client for a student to be involved in that client's care, including discussing the extent and degree to which a student may be involved in the client's care and record informed consent discussions regarding student involvement in accordance with the College's standards of practice
- ensure that the student understands their responsibilities and level of involvement in a client's care

- ensure that the student provides client care in accordance with midwifery standards of practice
- only assign care to the student that the student has the knowledge, skills and judgment to safely deliver
- determine the appropriate level of supervision to provide to the student while fostering autonomy and independence of the student
- be fully responsible in supervising the student, including being contactable when not directly supervising the student and ensuring the student has access to appropriate people and resources to assist them in performing their responsibilities at all times
- ensure that records reflect the care provided by the student to the client and adequacy of the preceptor's supervision of the student, in accordance with the College's standards of practice
- review and sign any documentation recorded by the student of the care provided to the client

References (legislative and other)

Professional Standards for Midwives (June 2021)

Approved by
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Implementation Date:
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