

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

DATE REPORT ISSUED: April 15, 2014
ATTENTION: Board Members
SUBJECT: Midwifery Advisory Council
CONTACT: Carrie Sparrevohn, L.M., Chair

REQUESTED ACTION:

Approval of the following Agenda Items is requested for the August 14, 2014 MAC meeting:

- Task Force Updates:
 - Midwife Assistant
 - Board Information Packet
 - Licensed Midwife Annual Report Data Collection Tool

- Update on regulatory changes required by AB 1308

BACKGROUND:

The last MAC meeting was held on March 27, 2014. The MAC continued its discussion surrounding the changes for licensed midwives (LM) mandated by Assembly Bill 1308 (AB1308) (Bonilla, Chapter 665, Statutes of 2013).

The MAC was presented with the final version of the hospital reporting form, as developed by staff. Staff also presented a report from LMs on their ability to obtain necessary testing and lifesaving drugs. It was found that there were few LMs who were still experiencing difficulty in this area.

Ms. Ehrlich provided a final update on the comparison of data over the past six years of collection via the Licensed Midwife Annual Report. Ms. Ehrlich reported that while changes need to be made to the data collection tool, overall the statistics have been consistent over the course of the last six years. Ms. Ehrlich's findings have been provided in the packet for reference (Attachment 1). Because of the needed changes to the collection tool, a task force was formed of Ms. Ehrlich and Ms. Sparrevohn, to identify what changes would be optimal, and then to work with staff to create those changes on the electronic data collection tool.

As had been discussed at prior MAC meetings, there is a need for LMs to have an assistant at births, and because it is not always possible for that assistant to be either another LM or a student, statutory changes are necessary to define the roles of an LM assistant. A task force was formed of Dr. Byrne and Ms. Sparrevohn to identify language that could be presented to the Board in October, outlining the roles and responsibilities related to an LM assistant.

The task force for the creation of an information packet for new Board Members is still in process. Upon completion of the document, and approval by the MAC and the Board, it will be provided to new Board members as part of the orientation packet.

The former Licensed Midwife Standard of Care document was presented to the MAC by the Board's legal counsel with the changes necessitated by AB 1308. Pursuant to AB 1308 the Standards of Care document is no longer recognized. Board staff and legal counsel edited the existing Standards of Care document to incorporate the changes necessitated by AB 1308, which resulted in the updated document: Practice Guidelines for California Licensed Midwives. The new document has been provided in the packet for reference. It is important to note that the only changes made to the document were directly related to those required by AB 1308. The Practice Guidelines were adopted by the MAC and will be provided to the public upon Board approval. The Practice Guidelines will be used by LMs to follow, while formal regulations are being drafted and approved.

LICENSED MIDWIFE ANNUAL REPORT: 2007-2012 OVERVIEW SUMMARY

EXPLANATION AND DISCLAIMER

The first page of data details outcomes of planned out-of-hospital births attended by licensed midwives (LMs) over a period of six years. The next four pages detail the reasons why mothers and/or babies were transferred to the hospital after the onset of labor.

The annual reports upon which this summary is based were developed only to follow trends in out-of-hospital maternity care provided by licensed midwives within California, as directed by law. Data listed in this summary are raw, aggregated numbers that have not been verified, validated for correct input, or subjected to epidemiological analysis. They are not to be quoted as definitive statistics or research.

The reporting tool was developed without oversight by maternity-care epidemiology professionals, and has elicited discrepant information. For example:

- The numbers listed (e.g. in sections E, O, and P of the annual report) for maternal and perinatal mortality do not tally properly, so reliable information about these mortality rates cannot be determined.
- The questionnaire does not classify where fetal, perinatal, and neonatal demises took place – out-of-hospital while under the care of the LM, during transfer of care, or in the hospital after transfer of care.
- The report does not distinguish whether the perinate had anomalies or other conditions incompatible with life.
- Mortality information is elicited in more than one section of the questionnaire. This could have led to inadvertent errors in submission, including possible doubling of some entries, thus skewing results.

In 2008 a California LM reported a maternal mortality that actually took place outside of California. Since 2009 all data for all categories come from care that was provided only within the state of California.

Prepared and submitted by Karen Ehrlich, LM – March 2014

OUTCOMES OF PLANNED OUT-OF-HOSPITAL BIRTHS WITH LICENSED MIDWIVES						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Planned Out of Hospital Births at Onset of Labor	1687	2278	1974	2245	2611	2784
Completed Births in Out-of-Hospital Setting	1438	1885	1621	1840	2123	2316
Percentage of Births Completed Out-of-Hospital	85.24%	82.75%	82.12%	81.96%	81.31%	83.12%
Intrapartum Elective Transfer	226	317	282	333	388	397
Intrapartum Urgent/Emergency Transfer	23	33	42	53	64	44
Total Intrapartum Transfer	249	350	324	386	452	441
Postpartum Elective Transfer	30	51	32	28	52	38
Postpartum Urgent/Emergency Transfer	17	29	27	21	34	21
Total Postpartum Transfer	47	80	59	49	86	59
Intrapartum plus Postpartum Transfer Rate	17.50%	18.90%	19.40%	19.30%	20.60%	18.00%
Newborn Elective Transfer	17	16	21	22	25	29
Newborn Urgent/Emergency Transfer	26	29	24	37	31	26
Total Newborn Transfer	43	55	45	59	56	55
Newborn Transfer Rate	2.60%	2.40%	2.30%	2.60%	2.10%	2.00%
C/S rate	7.7% (130)	8.8% (200)	9.4% (187)	8.7% (195)	7.1% (184)	7.0% (196)
Maternal Mortality	0	1	ā transfer - 0 p trānsfer - 1	0	0	0
Fetal Demise - section E, column C - fetal deaths from 20 weeks through labor	12	7	8	15	6	6
Infant Deaths - section E, column D - undefined	not asked	not asked	not asked	0	1	0
Fetal Demise diagnosed prior to labor - section O, line 126 (line 122 in 2007 & 2008)	7	5	6	4	3	1
Fetal Demise dx during labor or at delivery - sect O, line 127 (line 123 in 2007 & 2008)	3	3	3	6	6	3
Live Born Infant who subsequently died - sect O, line 128 (line 124 in 2007 & 2008)	5	4	2	2	5	2
Complications leading to infant mortality - Section P	6	4	4	2	6	2
Perinatal/Neonatal Mortality -	5	4	4	7	9	4
Please note: The data in the reports for fetal, perinatal, and neonatal mortality are not congruent. Thus it is not possible to calculate an accurate mortality rate for the six years of this overview.						

REASONS FOR HOSPITAL TRANSFER

Please note: The numbers in parantheses correspond to the lines in the 2009-2012 LMARs. A few of the line numbers for 2007 & 2008 differ from the rest.

On this page, the number in each year's column preceded by "n" refers to the number of planned out-of-hospital births at onset of CARE with LM.

		2007 _{n 2277}	2008 _{n 2774}	2009 _{n 3023}	2010 _{n 3115}	2011 _{n 3934}	2012 _{n 4370}
	Client request (43)	160	26	32	37	39	40
	Non vertex @ term (40)	16	48	29	31	32	43
	AB: spon & termin (34)	39	59	27	27	34	50
Antepartum	Hypertension dev in pg (26)	12	12	12	22	22	27
Elective	IUGR/fetal anomaly (36,37)	6	6	11	10	12	18
section G	Fetal heart irregularity (39)	4	2	4	4	2	6
	Multiple gestation (41)	3	12	10	11	9	10
	Abnorm fluid volume (38)	5	12	12	28	13	9
	Placental problems (33)	4	9	8	7	6	8
	Gestational DM (31)	4	3	6	7	7	9
	Vaginal bleeding (32)	4	5	2	3	3	2
	MW clinical judgment (42)	12	19	26	12	38	16
	All other (25,27,28,29,30,35,44)	32	31	30	41	32	31

Antepartum Urgent/ Emergent section H	Preterm labor or ROM (50)	16	33	26	26	30	44
	Headache/PIH/Preeclam (46)	3	5	10	8	13	13
	Significant vaginal bleed (49)	1	1	0	1	5	3
	Decr fetal mvmt/NST (51)	8	6	7	8	7	6
	Fetal demise (52)	5	5	6	5	4	2
	MW clinical judgment (53)	2	1	5	0	0	2
	Non-preg med condition (45)	3	1	1	0	1	2
	All other (47,48,54)	6	3	1	1	3	4

On next 3 pages, the "n" in each year's column refers to the number of planned out-of-hospital births at onset of LABOR.

		2007 _{n 1687}	2008 _{n 2278}	2009 _{n 1974}	2010 _{n 2245}	2011 _{n 2611}	2012 _{n 2784}
Intrapartum Elective section I	Lack progress/exhaustion/ dehydration (60)	125	188	164	179	240	248
	Pt request pain meds (66)	36	46	38	50	44	46
	Prolonged ROM (59)	18	31	23	31	34	27
	Thickmec w/o fet distres (61)	9	14	10	16	14	23
	Non-vertex presentation (62)	9	11	16	18	11	11
	Malposition/unstable lie (63)	7	10	11	7	7	6
	Hypertension/headache (55)	3	5	3	6	8	8
	Abnormal bleeding (57)	3	2	2	4	2	3
	Signs of infection (58)	1	1	4	4	6	7
	MW clinical judgment (65)	10	4	8	14	18	11
All other (56,64,67)	5	5	3	4	4	7	

Intrapartum Urgent/ Emergency section J	Non-reassur FHT/distress (73)	14	23	16	32	46	32
	Vaginal bleeding/suspected placental abruption (69)	3	2	3	4	5	3
	Preeclampsia (68)	2	1	1	1	1	5
	Cord prolapse (72)	1	2	0	1	0	1
	MW clinical judgment (74)	3	4	21	13	11	3
	All other (70,71,75,76)	0	0	1	2	1	0

		2007 _{n 1687}	2008 _{n 2278}	2009 _{n 1974}	2010 _{n 2245}	2011 _{n 2611}	2012 _{n 2784}
Postpartum Elective section K	Laceration beyond MW (78)	14	24	14	10	25	14
	Adherent placenta w/o significant bleeding (77)	6	13	7	7	8	11
	Signs of infection (82)	3	1	5	3	5	1
	Excessive bleeding in later postpartum (81)	2	4	1	3	7	4
	MW clinical judgment (83)	2	2	0	0	4	1
	Client request (84)	1	3	3	2	0	1
	All other (79,80,85)	2	4	2	3	3	6

Postpartum Urgent/ Emergency section L	Adherent placenta with signif bleeding (90)	9	10	8	10	17	11
	Uncontrolled hemorrh (88)	4	7	5	4	6	5
	Signs of infection (92)	1	2	1	0	0	0
	Seizures, shock or unconsciousness (89)	1	0	3	1	2	0
	Abnorm/unstable vitals (86)	0	3	1	1	3	5
	MW clinical judgment (93)	1	2	4	1	4	0
	All other (87,91,94)	1	5	5	4	2	0

		2007 _{n 1687}	2008 _{n 2278}	2009 _{n 1974}	2010 _{n 2245}	2011 _{n 2611}	2012 _{n 2784}
Infant Elective section M	Poor transition (98)	4	6	6	6	9	13
	Congenital anomalies (96)	3	4	0	9	2	5
	Birth injury (97)	incl w/anomalies	incl w/anomalies	1	0	0	0
	Low birth weight (95)	2	1	1	1	0	0
	Insuffic urine/mec (99)	0	0	2	0	0	1
	Parental request (100)	0	1	3	1	0	2
	MW clinical judgment (101)	7	0	7	4	10	5
	Other (102)	1	4	1	1	4	3

Infant Urgent/ Emergency section N	Abnorm vitals, color, tone lethargy, not nursing (103)	5	16	8	11	12	8
	Significant cardiac or respiratory issues (111)	9	7	8	9	7	10
	10 min Apgar 6 or less (112)	3	6	0	3	3	0
	Congenital anomalies (108)	4	2	1	2	0	0
	Birth injury (109)	incl w/anomalies	incl w/anomalies	0	1	0	1
	Signs of infection (104)	0	1	2	6	2	2
	Signif dehydr or depression of fontanelles (110)	0	0	2	0	1	0
	Abnorm bulg fontanelles (113)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Abnorm cry, seizures, or loss of conscious (105)	1	0	0	2	0	0
	Significant jaundice w/in 30 hours (106)	2	3	2	1	2	0
	MW clinical judgment (114)	0	3	0	2	1	3
	All other (107,115)	2	1	1	0	3	2