

California College of Midwives

State chapter ~ American College of Community Midwives

Section Three – Administrative Obligations

A Professional PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE ~ Configuration, Membership & Quorum for conducting business

∞ The Purpose of the Peer Review Committee is to provide midwifery-based peer review concerning quality of care provided by any Licensed Midwife who has reported serious morbidity or mortality, in compliance with *Notification of Transfer involving significant morbidity or mortality*. The goal of this review process is to collect and disseminate information relating to the improvement of the professional practice of midwifery and the reduction of risk for consumers.

A. The M&M Committee shall review the outcomes of any transfers in which either mother or baby:

1. required *emergency* hospital transport via 911 & paramedics
2. required emergency surgery and/or admission to the intensive care unit
3. is known to have suffered permanent disability or otherwise to require on-going medical care or to reside in a nursing home
4. died within 28 days of the birth

B. The Peer Review Committee will:

1. maintain confidentiality of all records as required by law;
2. review all summaries of births or other records submitted under section
3. review any case or summary of birth relating to care by a licensed Midwife for whom a complaint to the Medical Board or a lawsuit has been filed
4. maintain records on each review conducted
5. will prepare an annual report of data drawn from the M&M transfer records, in conjunction with the biennial reports of clients served by midwives, so that it is possible to produce accurate statistics on numbers of planned home births, the number of antepartum and intrapartum elective transfers of care, the number of intrapartum/neonatal emergency transports, the number of adverse outcomes and the resulting maternal and perinatal mortality rate per thousand of clients served by community midwives.

C. Configuration of Committee Membership and Quorum for conducting

business: A joint task force of the California College of Midwives and the California Association of Midwives will each nominate 10 names – 5 from the northern half of the state and 5 from the southern half -- for membership on a community-based midwifery peer review committee for a minimum term of 3 years. The names of 6 qualified LMs shall be drawn by lot from the 20 names submitted by the joint task force.

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The final configuration of the peer review committee will consist of a maximum of 9 members. The peer review committee membership shall consist of

1. Six California Licensed Midwives chosen by lot from a pool consisting of licensed midwives that have a currently active community-based midwifery practice, have been in practice at least 5 years and have attended at least 100 birth since completing their training or since becoming licensed, whichever came first
2. One appointed representative from each of the above named state-wide midwifery organizations (CCM & CAM)
3. One appointee from a consumer-based organizations such as Citizens for Midwifery, International Cesarean Prevention Network or California Citizens for Health Freedom or other appropriate consumer organization that has evidenced interest in promoting domiciliary midwifery.

D. Quorum: The minimum quorum for taking official action by the peer-review committee shall be 7 members. This quantum can include any of the appointed representatives of the California College of Midwives, the California Association of Midwives and/or a consumer organization representative from Citizens for Midwifery, International Cesarean Prevention Network or California Citizens for Health Freedom.

The Committee shall meet as necessary or at least once each calendar or fiscal year and shall stagger the terms of service so that not more than 3 new members are added in any one year.

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