

California College of Midwives
State chapter ~ American College of Community Midwives

Section Three

Mortality / Morbidity ~ Peer Review Committee

∞ The purpose of the mortality/morbidity peer review process is to:

1. understand what happened and why
2. inquire into the accountability of the individual licensed midwife
3. determine if such adverse events could be prevented in the future
4. make recommendations leading to the improved practice of professional midwives
5. correct systemic problems involving other professionals and emergency response personnel who may unintentionally have contributed to the poor outcome

A. The California Licensed Midwife shall report any maternal death, stillbirth or neonatal death at home or birth center to the country coroner as soon as feasible.

B. The Midwifery Peer Review Committee shall conduct a review on any birth resulting in mortality.

C. The M&M Peer Review Committee shall meet within 40 days of receipt of the records and/or the M&M transfer report and shall review the following information:

1. The Midwife's additional account of the facts surrounding the incident;
2. The autopsy report and/or any other pertinent medical records

D. The Peer Review Committee shall, within 90 days, prepare a written consensus report summarizing the review conducted.