

OHO response to the NMBA's draft revised *Safety and quality guidelines for privately practising midwives*

Response due 30 December.

Preferred Option
Option 2 – Review and minor update
Questions
1. Is the updated content of the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives helpful, clear and relevant? Why or why not?
Answer: The OHO is of the opinion that the updated content of the guidelines for PPM is clear and addresses all key areas. The OHO supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relocating the definition and scope of practice of a midwife to the glossary• Relocating how midwives are regulated to Appendix A and rewording into plain English• Updated language and clarity of application
2. Is there any content that needs to be changed or removed in the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives?
Answer: The OHO suggests that the NMBA consider incorporating 'supervision' under the heading 'What is a privately practising midwife' and include this in the definition of 'Practice' within the glossary. While it is clear that 'practice' does not include working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles, 'supervision' of PPM may include the provision of direct midwifery care. Reference to supervision could be made in the first paragraph under the heading 'Second health practitioners' e.g., <i>'PPMs who practice as the second health practitioner during a homebirth (<u>including supervising PPMs</u>) must comply with all requirements of the guidelines ...'</i>
3. Is there any new content that needs to be added in the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives? Why or why not?
Answer: See response to point 2 above

4. Would the proposed updates result in any potential negative or unintended effects for women and families, including members of the community accessing PPM services who may be more vulnerable to harm? If so, please describe them

Answer:

The OHO is of the opinion that the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives will not have any potential negative or unintended effects for women and families, including members of the community accessing PPM services who may be more vulnerable to harm

5. Would the proposed updates result in any potential negative or unintended effects for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples? If so, please describe them.

Answer:

The OHO is of the opinion that the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives will not have any potential negative or unintended impacts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

6. Would the proposed updates result in any potential negative or unintended effects for PPMs, other health practitioners or stakeholders? If so, please describe them.

Answer:

The OHO is of the opinion that the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives will not result in any potential negative or unintended effects for PPMs, other health practitioners or stakeholders, however, it is suggested that clarification regarding supervision PPMs as suggested in point 2 would provide further clarity to stakeholders.

7. Do you have any other comments on the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for private practising midwives?

Answer:

The OHO has no further feedback or comments about the draft revised Safety and quality guidelines for privately practising midwives