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19/04/2022 01:34 pm

To:
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Subject:

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Ministry of Health feedback on Scope of Practice sta

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on behalf of the Ministry's Maternity team on the Scope of Practice statement. Abby Hewitt recused herself from this feedback as she was on the project team that devised the statement.

Our combined feedback is as follows:

1. We would firstly like to commend the Council on the process they have chosen to undertake in revising the Scope of Practice. They have demonstrated a true commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
2. Overall we feel the Scope of Practice statement is somewhat undefined and would be strengthened by clear reference and links to the Competencies. This could help alleviate concern about the reference to the midwifery relationship with whānau, rather than individual women, for instance.
3. We would like to see more focus on consumer rights and informed decision-making. Again, this could be achieved through reference to the Competencies.

Ngā mihi,

K

Kass Jane ([she/her](#))

Principal Clinical Advisor | Maternity
Community Health System Improvement and Innovation
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From: Feedback <Feedback@midwiferycouncil.health.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 30 March 2022 1:02 pm

To: Feedback <Feedback@midwiferycouncil.health.nz>

Subject: Scope of Practice statement - Feedback

Tēnā koutou,

On behalf of Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council I am delighted to share the revised Midwifery Whānuitanga o Te Mahi | Scope of Practice statement with your organisation. This statement has been circulated to the midwifery workforce and we are receiving feedback from kahu pūkai | midwives that will be considered by the Board in May.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is our country's foundational document. It provides a framework for partnership that champions mana ōrite (equality), mahi kotahitanga (working together) and rangatiratanga (chieftainship). The revised [Scope of Practice statement](#) positions midwifery practice to meet the contemporary needs of whānau across Aotearoa New Zealand. It is deliberate in honouring Te Tiriti

o Waitangi in that it upholds Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti as equal partners. The revised Scope is whānau centred. It stands in Te Ao Māori and Tangata Tiriti worldviews. It is inclusive and affirms and enables kahu pōkai | midwives to practice in ways that meet the needs of all the whānau they work alongside.

How the Scope statement was developed

The Scope of Practice review was undertaken by Te Rōpu Pou Herenga | Collaborative Reference Group (CRG) which was led by Co-chairs Dr Hope Tupara and Dr Judith McAra-Couper. The CRG comprised 17 members who were drawn from a broad range of midwives and consumers across Aotearoa. The CRG used the three-whare Tiriti-led framework to review and develop a contemporary, fit for purpose, midwifery Scope of Practice for Aotearoa. The journey that ensued was challenging at times, but the commitment, respect and trust that developed, generated new understandings that formed the foundation of the revised Scope.

The CRG met regularly from June 2020 to November 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic required the work of the group to be conducted entirely via Huitopa | Zoom. Te Whānuitanga o Te Mahi | Scope of Practice phase of the project has now entered the feedback stage and work has commenced on developing the Standards of Competence.

We invite you to share your thoughts

Once you and your team have had time to consider the revised Scope we would like to offer you the opportunity to provide your organisational feedback. Please send this feedback via email. This can be either in the body of the email, or as an attached PDF. Some resources to assist you in your exploration of the Scope can be found on our [website](#).

I want to acknowledge that the Council is asking you to consider this Scope in very challenging times with the health workforce under extreme pressure from the pandemic. We believe this revised Scope is both timely and crucial to wellbeing of whānau in Aotearoa and to the future of the midwifery profession. Please be advised that we may place some feedback on the Council's website. This email specifically asks for feedback from your organisation. If anyone in your organisation would like to make a personal submission, which may differ from the organisational feedback, can they please use the [survey link](#) on our website. Please note that submissions close 5pm April 12th 2022 (NZST).

I would like to thank you for taking the time to view and consider the revised Midwifery Whānuitanga o Te Mahi | Scope of Practice statement and look forward to hearing back from you.

Nāku noa, nā

Dr Susan Calvert (she/her)

Tumu Whakahaere me te Pouroki: Chief Executive and Registrar

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*The Midwifery Council is the regulator of midwives in Aotearoa, New Zealand.
Our role is to protect the health and safety of women and their babies by making sure midwives are fit and competent to practise.*

Our values: fairness, integrity, equity and accountability

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