Appendix B

Midwifery Care Process

This care process is dynamic, continuous, and circular when needed, following an orderly succession of steps and requiring critical thinking and various types and levels of decision-making throughout. At times data collected or decisions made or unanticipated outcomes will require re-visiting an earlier step and re-planning with the woman. See attached graphic illustrating the circular nature of the care process.

1. **ASSESSMENT:**
   - **Includes:** History and current needs expressed by woman, physical examination, laboratory findings. [cognitive, psychomotor, affective functions]
   - **Sources of data:** Woman, family, available records, observation.
   - **Criteria for success:** Systematic and accurate data collection done in culturally appropriate, respectful manner.

2. **DECISION-MAKING:**
   - **Includes:** Organizing data collected to clarify actual or potential midwifery diagnoses based on woman’s needs/problems and determining if emergency action required. [Cognitive & affective functions]
   - **Sources of data:** See Step 1.
   - **Criteria for success:** Correct interpretation of data that results in accurate midwifery diagnoses.

3. **PLANNING:**

---

1 This schemata of the midwifery model of care has been used with midwifery teachers and learners in a variety of countries for the past 40 years. It was updated in keeping with the ICM Midwifery Philosophy and Model of Care, Essential Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice, and the International Code of Ethics for Midwives along with the ACNM Life-Saving Skills Manual for Midwives 1991. J. Thompson, 4/12
Includes: Prioritizing need for action in partnership with the woman, determining which needs/problems will be resolved by midwifery actions; need for consultation or referral. [Cognitive & affective functions]

Sources of data: Steps 1 and 2.

Criteria for success: Comprehensive plan with input from woman/family, including alternates when available based on evidence/sound rationale.

4. IMPLEMENTATION:
   Includes: Timely, appropriate, safe midwifery care provided with compassion and cultural sensitivity, promoting self-care when possible. [Cognitive, affective, psychomotor functions]

Sources of data: Steps 1, 2, and 3.

Criteria for success: Timely intervention with safe, evidence-based, efficient, ethical, compassionate care-giving along with appropriate recording of data and plan of care.

5. EVALUATION:
   Includes: Feedback from woman/family on needs met, satisfaction; midwife self assessment and reflection on outcomes & whether new approach needed; confirmation/validation from colleagues, teachers. [Cognitive, affective functions]

Sources of data: Self, woman, family, peers, supervisors.

Criteria for success: Extent to which care given met needs of woman and midwifery goals. Outcomes of midwifery care includes improved health/well-being of women and newborns.
Graphic Representation of Midwifery Care Process

Foundational Midwifery Knowledge, Skills & Professional Behaviors (KSBs)

Critical Thinking

Assessment
- History
- Physical Examination
- Laboratory Findings

Evaluation
- Needs met?
- Problems resolved?
- Woman satisfied?
- Midwife self-assessment
- Reflection

Decision-Making
- Organize data collected
- Clarify needs/potential problems
- Emergency action needed?

Woman's Needs Problems

Appropriate Action

Implementation
- Timely, appropriate care
- Promote self-care
- Compassionate, culturally appropriate care
- Safe care

Planning
- Prioritize needs
- Create plan with woman
- Need for consultation or referral?