

# Preparation for Providing Care Normal Full-Term Pregnancies Minimum Clinical Maternity Care Requirements

	Certified Professional Midwives <sup>1</sup>	Certified Nurse Midwives <sup>2</sup>	Family Practice Physicians <sup>3</sup>
Prenatal Exams as Primary	100	85	not specified
Initial Exams as Primary	20	15	10
Births Attended	55	20	40
As Primary Attendant	25	20	not specified
With Continuity of Care	5	none	10
With at least 1 prenatal prior to birth	10	none	none
Out-of-Hospital	10	none	none
Newborn Exams	40	20	10
Postpartum Exams	50	35	10

The goal of all these providers is to care for women experiencing normal full-term pregnancies with as little intervention as possible; all interventions carry some risks. They continually assess women in their care, identifying any whose pregnancies or births become high risk and transferring their care to an Obstetrician.

### Other Care Providers

**Obstetricians<sup>4</sup>** receive the same preparation as Family Practice Physicians in their initial medical school training. Then they also have additional training with high-risk births, including surgical procedures, as part of their internships, but these cases are not comparable to normal, full-term pregnancies. Obstetric residency programs rarely offer any experience in normal physiologic childbirth free from interventions.

**Emergency Medical Technicians<sup>5</sup>** are not required to have any clinical training in birth, although they do have theoretical and anatomical training. An EMT would not be expected to wait until an accidental birth happened in an ambulance or at a home before becoming qualified for licensure.

<sup>1</sup> North American Registry of Midwives Certified Professional Midwife Eligibility Requirement Update, effective September 1, 2012. <http://www.narm.org/req-updates/>

<sup>2</sup> Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education Criteria for Programmatic Accreditation of Midwifery Education Programs with Instructions for Elaboration and Documentation, Revised June 2010. <http://www.midwife.org/acmedocs/ACME.Programmatic.Criteria.12.09.%206.10.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in Family Medicine, Effective July 1, 2006. [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRC\\_progReq/120pr706.pdf](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRC_progReq/120pr706.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Program Requirements for Residency Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Effective July 1, 2005. [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRC\\_progReq/220pr705.pdf](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRC_progReq/220pr705.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> United States Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration EMT-Basic: National Standard Curriculum, Revised June, 12 1997. <http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/ems/pub/emtbns.pdf>

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