

CMM CIRCULAR

WINTER 2011



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CMM CIRCULAR DESIGN & LAYOUT

Kathy Kirby

Warm Greetings! It is with such enthusiasm that we bring to our membership the second edition of the CMM Circular. We hope that you all enjoyed a peaceful holiday season with your loved ones and that the New Year will be good to you all. We have settled back into our routines here at the CMM and are eager to get back to work with anticipation for a productive year.

Positive feedback about the Fall Circular came in and with that we hope to continue to satisfy our avid readers while at the same time provide updates on matters of interest as well as events relevant to your practice as a midwife.

Remember, your suggestions/comments are always welcome. What you think is very important to us. We want to hear from you!

Just a few new and exciting undertakings for the CMM this year are, firstly, the inception of photo ID! As the other Colleges are doing this or already have, we have also decided to transition to a more sophisticated mode of identification. We will keep you posted on this initiative! However, by the time you read this; production will most likely have begun. See page 3 for further information.

Secondly, we are revising the CMM Registrants Handbook to make it more user friendly. We have approached a few midwives from the various Regional Health Authorities asking what they think and if they have any ideas. We haven't heard too much regarding the restructuring of the handbook however one suggestion was posting the handbook on the website. If you are interested in sharing your ideas, please contact the CMM. We really are pushing to have this work completed soon. We look forward to hearing from you all.

Kathy Kirby

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

2011 looks like it is going to bring many changes for midwives in Manitoba. You may be looking forward to a change in work place, a change in partners, and a new addition to your personal family, a new car or, like me, a wonderful new warm coat to wear out on home visits! What does not change is our important role in the lives of our clients. This continues to be brought home to me every time I attend a labour and birth that is not "perfect". When a peaceful birth that was longed for, turns into a feared abdominal birth, I think how scary it must be for women and their loved ones to go through it without us. Although the nurses are usually great and the doctors are empathetic, we are the ones who follow the women home and care for their scars (both physical and emotional). When a woman works through a labour by verbally abusing us, we are the ones who know the woman and see through that abuse for what it is: fear and sorrow that her baby is being apprehended. We are the ones who get up and out in the dead of a cold January night to check on a mother who has broken her waters, so that she does not have to. We risk car accidents on a stormy day, so that she does not have to. We are more than witnesses to extraordinary times. We work (hard) to make the lives of women better. Hmmm, I must need coffee.

Kelly Klick, RM.



**COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES OF
MANITOBA COUNCIL
MEMBERS**

Kelly Klick, RM, Chairperson

Darlene Birch, RM
(KD Council Designate)

Thelma Mason, (KD)

Kari Hammersley, RM

Gisele Fontaine, RM

Erin Eleuterio (Pub.Rep)

Terri MacKenzie (Pub. Rep)

**CURRENT CMM
MEMBERSHIP**

40 practicing midwives

14 non-practicing midwives

14 Students

REMINDER:

**AS PER THE CMM CODE OF
ETHICS ALL MIDWIVES HAVE THE
RESPONSIBILITY TO**

*"Make known to an
appropriate person or authority
where it appears that the
ability of a colleague to
maintain standards of practice
appears to be in jeopardy.*

COMMITTEE UPDATES/REMINDERS

Perinatal Review Reminder:

Please be reminded that midwives are required to refer cases involving the following criteria to the CMM Perinatal Review Committee for review:

- all stillbirths (> 500 grams)
- neonatal deaths (> 500 grams to 28 days of life inclusive)
- maternal deaths
- specified morbidity in neonates and mothers

If you/your practice group have charts that are audited by the CMM Quality Assurance Committee as part of its Quality Assurance program, and applicable cases are identified, they will be automatically forwarded to the CMM for review.

Quality Assurance Update:

The Quality Assurance Committee recently met (February 2nd). Members expressed sadness to see Cara McDonald resign from the Committee and at the same time welcome He Hu. A big thank you to Cara for her work with the Committee over the years! The draft Terms of Reference were finalized and will require Council approval before inclusion in the CMM Bylaw. You will receive a copy once this occurs. The Committee will soon appoint auditors for the 2010-2011 audit, appoint the QA Panel members, and set the date for the full practice site review. The practice audit tools are being tested in a mini audit being conducted at Mount Carmel Clinic. More information to follow.

Providing Care to Family Members, Colleagues and Friends

Over the years some midwives have requested direction from the CMM regarding providing care to family members, colleagues or friends. Midwifery has traditionally provided intimate care, and the midwife/client relationship develops in a safe comfortable environment that engenders trust and mutual respect. When providing care to a member of her own family, colleague or friend, a midwife must acknowledge the pre-existing relationship may impact the development of such a relationship. In cases where either party feels the pre-existing relationship may be detrimental to the care of the client, then the client should be referred to another midwife or care provider. The midwife and her family member, colleague or friend must be aware of the potential difficulties maintaining the necessary professional boundaries while in a midwife/client relationship. Boundary violations can result when there is confusion between the needs of the midwife and those of the client. It is important that the midwife stay focused on the needs of each particular client regardless of any pre-existing relationship and ensure that she can provide quality midwifery care. In addition, the midwife should consider her own ability to provide appropriate care in emergency or difficult situations, and should consider having a 'back-up' care provider in case she becomes unable to provide care. In all cases the client should be recognized as the primary decision-maker.

Midwifery Outcomes: Data Is on the Horizon

The Health Information Management department of Manitoba Health has been working on compiling the data collected from the Midwifery Discharge Summary Forms and producing reports regarding midwifery outcomes in Manitoba. All practices should have received information from Manitoba Health about submitting Discharge Summary Forms in June, 2010. In addition a notice was distributed in December, 2010 regarding possible backlogs of Discharge Summary Forms from 2008/2009. If you have not received either of these communications please contact the CMM. The goal of Health Information Management Branch is to produce quarterly reports beginning in the near future. If you have any thoughts on what information or outcomes you would like to see reported please let the CMM know by sending an email to registrar@midwives.mb.ca.

NEWBORN SCREENING

Cadham Provincial Laboratory has recently introduced new Newborn Screening Cards. They are experiencing increased rates of insufficient samples and would like to remind care providers to ensure that the fold-over flap is extended out of the way when taking a sample to ensure that blood does not soak through to the flap itself. Cadham Lab is interested in hearing comments and feedback from midwives regarding their experiences using the new cards. If you have any to share please email registrar@midwives.mb.ca

The Midwives Association of Manitoba (MAM) has exciting plans for the 2011 year and has created two new subcommittees! Changes have been incorporated in to membership options. Plans are under way to make the Emergency Skills Workshop more inclusive to other maternity care providers and offer professional development workshops. MAM is working towards becoming a 'paperless' association; reducing production of their newsletter and communications on paper. The first step towards this goal is to request that (Health Insurance Reciprocal of Canada) HIROC send out each individual memorandum of Insurance to MAM subscribers by email. MAM will continue to keep an e-copy of each memorandum in their archive database. If you did not receive this from HIROC, please contact MAM.

Membership changes for the 2011 year have included the option of obtaining non-practising insurance with HIROC, which allows for uninterrupted legal defence coverage. This coverage is recommended by HIROC so there are no periods of time a midwife is not insured. Maternity leave, retirement or leave of absence from employment is examples when non-practising insurance is recommended.

The Emergency Skills Workshop (ESW) will be held this year in March, September and October. The ESW committee is interested in opening up the program to other professionals, such as EMS providers, and also to student midwives. The plan is to explore this option to assess level of interest from these groups.

MAM is thrilled to announce the launch of their new website www.midwivesofmanitoba.com It is available to view but is still under construction. The hope is that this website will meet the needs of membership and be a hub of communication! The website will include HIROC insurance information and applications, notices of professional development, courses offered by MAM and other groups, ability to directly email MAM committee members on this website, and information for midwifery employment within the province. If you have any ideas for the website please contact Veronica Reimer, RM: midwivesofmanitoba@gmail.com

CMM LIBRARY

NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS:

Healthy Beginnings/Supportive Communities/ A Strong Future

In 2009, the Metis Centre of the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) met with Metis in different parts of Canada to share and collect stories, teachings and information about maternal-child well-being. This DVD is the result of all things learned from Metis midwives, health professionals, Elders and parents.

"**Qanuqtuurniq – Finding the Balance**" brings together information, success stories and interesting research about Inuit health and wellness. (DVD)

We have received the latest instalments of the **JOGC Journal** – December 2010 & January 2011.

PHOTO ID

Photo ID cards are new to the CMM. They are issued by most of the other Canadian midwifery colleges and we are working to ensure our college conforms to current standards across the country. Photo ID cards have become commonplace in today's high-security world, from schools to the workplace and beyond.

Please note that this new photo ID card does not replace your RHA/Hospital ID card; it identifies you as a Manitoba midwife while at the same time aids in protection of the public. New photo cards will be issued every 5 years.



