

## EMERGENCY TRANSFER OF MOTHER AND/OR NEWBORN FROM HOME CT0300

### 1.0 POLICY

Registered midwives(RM) work together with ambulance services and BC Women's health care providers toward the common goal of providing the safest care possible to women choosing home birth.

Mothers and/or newborns requiring emergency transfer to BC Women's from home are admitted together to BC Women's (Assessment Room, Delivery Suite or Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). The mother and/or newborn receive(s) immediate care from the appropriate physician and the newborn has direct access to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Resuscitation Team (NICU) if indicated.

**Applicability:** Transfers from home occur in the Acute Perinatal Program.

### 2.0 PROCEDURE

When transport is required, a safe and smooth transport from home to hospital is the goal. In an emergency situation, the communication between health care providers and preparation at BC Women's are key factors in providing the mother and/or newborn with timely and appropriate access of care.

#### 2.1 Notification

Registered Midwives attending a client in labour and/or a home birth in progress:

- Obtain the name of the on-site obstetrician and the on-call pediatrician.
- Notify the Delivery Suite (D/S) Charge Nurse (CN)

#### 2.2 Emergency Notification

When an emergency at home requires transfer to BCW the Registered Midwife calls:

- 911 immediately and
- BC Women's Hospital Delivery Suite Charge Nurse

Use the Emergency Transport Communication Tool, when the emergency involves the:

Mother or Fetus	Newborn
RM - call Charge Nurse	RM - call Charge Nurse
CN - contact on-site obstetrician	CN - contact on-call pediatrician
Obstetrician speaks with RM if possible	Pediatrician speaks with RM if possible
RM - On arrival in D/S, provide receiving physician with a verbal report of events	

### 3.0 DOCUMENTATION

Use the appropriate documents to record information:

Care Provider	Information	Document
Charge Nurse	When notified a home birth is in progress and when notified of an emergency transport of a mother/newborn from home. Complete during an emergency transport and submit within 12 hours.	<a href="#">Home Birth in Progress &amp; Emergency Transport Charge Nurse Record</a> Appendix C
Registered Midwife	Complete during or within 24 hours of an emergency transport of mother/newborn from home	<a href="#">Emergency Transport Registered Midwife Record</a> Appendix B.

- Fax all completed documents to BCW Department of Midwifery.

## 4.0 REFERENCE

Findings and Recommendations as a Result of the Inquest into the Death of MacDowall – Aislabie, Tessah Rose (2000, June). BC Coroner's Service.

Implementing Midwifery Services in British Columbia – A Manual for Hospitals and Health Regions (2006, March). Midwives Association of BC (MABC).

Janssen P, Lee SK (2000). *Home Birth Demonstration Project. Final Report to the Health Transition Fund, Appendix C*, Victoria: British Columbia Ministry of Health and Ministry Responsible for Seniors; Project no BC404.

Janssen P, Lee SK, Ryan EM, Etches DJ, Farquharson DF, Peacock LD, Klein MC. (2002, February 5). [Outcomes of planned home births](#) versus planned hospital births after regulation of midwifery in British Columbia. CMAJ 166 (3).

Policy for Home Birth Transport Plan. (2005). [College of Midwives of British Columbia](#). Transport Plan (2005). [College of Midwives of British Columbia](#).

## 5.0 APPENDIX

Appendix A [Emergency Transport Communication Tool](#)

Appendix B [Emergency Transport Registered Midwife Record](#)

Appendix C [Home Birth in Progress & Emergency Transport Charge Nurse Record](#)

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