



Midwifery Council of New Brunswick

**Conseil de l'Ordre des sages-femmes
du Nouveau-Brunswick**

Guidelines: Equipment and Supplies for Home Birth

The following list is the minimum equipment and supplies that registered midwives are recommended to carry for home birth practice. Individual midwives may choose to carry additional materials according to their practice location and preferences.

It is expected that all supplies and equipment will be appropriately sterilized or clean and functional. It is understood that midwives will use their best clinical judgement in prioritizing their actions in the management of emergency situations. Some emergency procedures, such as umbilical vein catheterisation will not be able to be carried out without additional qualified attendants available to assist.

EQUIPMENT

Fetoscope and/or Doppler
Stethoscope
Infant/neonatal stethoscope
Sphygmomanometer with appropriate size cuff
Thermometer
Portable suction machine
Delivery instruments ¹
Instrument for artificial rupture of membranes
Newborn intubation equipment ²
Newborn resuscitation bag and mask, including pressure gauge, PEEP valve
Newborn laryngeal mask airway
Newborn Pulse Oximeter
CO2 detector
Compressed gas regulator and flow meter
Umbilical vein catheterization kit ³
Suturing instruments ⁴
Infant scale
Heat source for infant e.g. heating pad
Ophthalmoscope
Sharps container

SUPPLIES

Sterile gloves
Non-sterile gloves
Antiseptic solution
Sterile lubricant
Syringes (appropriate sizes)
Needles (appropriate sizes)
Suture materials
Urinary catheters
Urinalysis supplies
Blood collection supplies
Cord blood tubes
Cord clamps or ties
Oral airways
Maternal oxygen mask
IV supplies

ESSENTIAL MEDICATIONS

Uterotonic medications ⁵
IV fluids ⁶
Local anaesthetic
Oxygen
Epinephrine (Maternal/newborn doses)
Antihistamine (anaphylactic reactions)
Eye prophylaxis
Vitamin K

1. 1 pair blunt-ended scissors, 1 pair episiotomy scissors, 2 haemostats

2. Laryngoscope and blades, ET tubes

3. Minimally; syringes for epinephrine 1/10,000 0.1 ml/kg followed by normal saline flush, scalpel, 3-way stop cock & UV cannula, and a #5 feeding tube

4. Needle driver, scissors, Mosquito forceps

5. Oxytocin and 2nd line uterotonic (e.g. ergonovine maleate or misoprostol) in accordance with community standards.

6. Normal saline, Ringer's lactate