

POLICY

Registered midwives (RMs) work together with BC Ambulance Services and the staff at BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre (BCWH) toward the common goal of providing the safest care possible to women choosing home birth.

Mothers and/or newborns requiring emergency transport to BCWH from home are admitted together to BCWH (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: Transports from home occur in the Acute Perinatal Program.

PROCEDURE

When emergency 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 BCWH are key factors in providing the mother and/or newborn with timely and appropriate access to care.

1.1 Notification

Registered Midwives attending a home birth in progress:

Notify the Delivery Suite (D/S) Charge Nurse (CN) of a home birth in progress.

Obtain the name of the on-site obstetrician and the on-call pediatrician, at the discretion of the midwife.

1.2 Emergency Notification

When an emergency at home requires transport to BCWH the Registered Midwife calls:

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

1.3 Communication

Use the Emergency Transport Communication Tool [Appendix A] to communicate during an emergency transport.

DOCUMENTATION

Use the appropriate documents to record information:

Care Provider	Document	Instructions
Charge Nurse	Home Birth in Progress & Emergency Transport Charge Nurse Record Appendix C	Start completing record when notified of a home birth in progress. Complete record during an emergency transport of mother/newborn from home, and submit within 12 hours.
Registered Midwife	Emergency Transport Registered Midwife Record Appendix B.	Complete and submit during or within 12 hours of an emergency transport of mother/newborn from home.

- Fax all completed documents to BCWH Department of Midwifery at 604-875-3261

REFERENCES

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](#).

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](#)