

2025 -- H 5858

LC001903

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Introduced By: Representatives Stewart, Alzate, Cruz, Shallcross Smith, Kislak, Potter,  
McGaw, and Casimiro

Date Introduced: February 28, 2025

Referred To: House Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-13-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-13 entitled "Maternal and  
2 Child Health Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs" is hereby amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 **23-13-9. Licensing and regulation of midwives — Penalty for violations.**

5 (a) The state director of health is authorized and directed to make rules for the regulation  
6 of the practice of midwifery and for the licensing of midwives, including regulations that require  
7 the payment of an initial application fee equal to that fee that is imposed upon applicants for  
8 licensure as nurse practitioners and a renewal fee also equivalent to that for nurse practitioners. The  
9 rules regarding the regulation of the practice of midwifery shall authorize a licensed, certified  
10 nurse-midwife (CNM) or a licensed, certified midwife (CM) to prescribe medications that might  
11 be reasonably required by his or her patients; provided however, that a licensed, certified nurse-  
12 midwife (CNM) or a licensed, certified midwife (CM) shall prescribe any of those medications as  
13 authorized by the director of health. The provisions of this section relating to prescription authority  
14 by certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives shall be overseen by the department of health  
15 as defined in the department's rules and regulations for licensing of midwives (R23-13MID). No  
16 person not a licensed midwife or a physician, registered under the provisions of chapter 37 of title  
17 5, shall practice midwifery, or shall make a practice of attending women in childbirth for hire, or  
18 use the name or title of midwife. Any person who violates the provisions of this section, or who

1 violates any of the rules of the department of health made in pursuance of this section, shall be  
2 fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100), or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or  
3 both, and the director of health may revoke the license issued to any person when, in the opinion  
4 of the director of health, that person is guilty of unprofessional conduct.

5 (b) Scope of prescriptive authority for a certified professional midwife with prescriptive  
6 authority under this section shall have the ability to order, obtain, carry and administer the following  
7 medications in accordance with their training and practice:

8 (1) Lactation pumps and equipment;

9 (2) Nipple shields;

10 (3) Compression stockings and belts;

11 (4) Maternity belts;

12 (5) Diaphragms and cervical caps;

13 (6) Glucometers and testing strips;

14 (7) Iron supplements;

15 (8) Prenatal vitamins;

16 (9) Recommended vaccines;

17 (10) Prophylactic ophthalmic medication;

18 (11) Postpartum oxytocic;

19 (12) Vitamin K;

20 (13) Rho (D) immune globulin;

21 (14) Local anesthetic;

22 (15) Intravenous fluids and equipment;

23 (16) Sterile water for intradermal injections for pain relief;

24 (17) Magnesium sulfate for prevention or treatment of maternal peripartum seizures  
25 pending transport;

26 (18) Epinephrine for use in maternal peripartum anaphylaxis resuscitation and neonatal  
27 resuscitation;

28 (19) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine to nonimmune postpartum individuals;

29 (20) Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine for use in pregnancy;

30 (21) Hepatitis B (HBV) birth dose for any newborn administration;

31 (22) HBIG and HBV for any neonates born to a hepatitis B positive gestational parent;

32 (23) Influenza vaccine;

33 (24) Any vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
34 advisory committee on immunization practices for pregnant or postpartum individuals or infants in

- 1 the first two (2) weeks after birth or pregnant or postpartum individuals;
- 2 (25) Terbutaline to temporarily decrease contractions pending emergent intrapartum
- 3 transport;
- 4 (26) Antibiotics for intrapartum prophylaxis of Group B (beta hemolytic) Streptococcus
- 5 (GBS);
- 6 (27) Antihemorrhagic drugs to treat postpartum hemorrhage including, but not limited to,
- 7 intravenous tranexamic acid, oxytocin, misoprostol, methergine, and prostaglandin F2 alpha;
- 8 (28) Nifedipine for indication of preterm labor pending transport;
- 9 (29) Antibiotics;
- 10 (30) Antiemetics;
- 11 (31) Antivirals;
- 12 (32) Antifungals;
- 13 (33) Low-potency topical steroids;
- 14 (34) Antipruritic medications and therapies;
- 15 (35) Galactagogues;
- 16 (36) Topical analgesia for anal, vulvar, and perineal pain;
- 17 (37) Preterm labor preventatives;
- 18 (38) Stool softeners;
- 19 (39) Vitamins and minerals for preventing and treating deficiencies;
- 20 (40) Over-the-counter medications as needed;
- 21 (41) Nonopioid medication for therapeutic rest;
- 22 (42) Medications for miscarriage prevention and completion;
- 23 (43) Smoking cessation;
- 24 (44) Prescription referrals for IV iron infusions;
- 25 (45) Intraosseous;
- 26 (46) Umbilical venous catheters for neonatal resuscitation;
- 27 (47) Intramuscular tranexamic;
- 28 (48) Oxygen and equipment;
- 29 (49) Rhogam;
- 30 (50) All-purpose nipple ointment; and
- 31 (51) Injectable Lidocaine.

32 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

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- 1           This act would establish the scope of a certified professional midwife's authority relating
- 2           to prescribing medication to patients.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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