

DEFINED REGISTRATION – OBSTETRICS

DATE OF LAST REVISION/PUBLICATION – 2003

PLANNED REVIEW DATE – 2008

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Medical Practitioners Regulation, primary care physicians may be registered with or without entitlement to practice obstetrics. All primary care physicians are expected to have competence in the medical management of a female in the reproductive age group. This includes diagnosis of pregnancy. After the diagnosis, whether a primary care physician provides pre-natal care to the patient depends upon the obstetrical training and experience of the physician.

SCOPE:

This Statement applies to all primary care physicians. Emergency situations are excluded.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Primary care physicians who have completed acceptable postgraduate clinical training in obstetrics¹ and are registered with entitlement to practise obstetrics, but who have not performed any deliveries for more than three years²:
 - (a) may continue to provide prenatal care to patients.
 - (b) may not do deliveries.
2. Primary care physicians who have not completed acceptable postgraduate clinical training in obstetrics and who are not registered with entitlement to practise obstetrics must refer a patient to an appropriately qualified physician:
 - (a) before 14 weeks of pregnancy, or
 - (b) if the diagnosis is established after 14 weeks, as soon as possible after diagnosis.
3. Primary care physicians who wish to provide obstetrical care may do deliveries after an appropriate assessment and, if necessary, re-training.

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Revision	QUAL/12-00
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¹ Acceptable post-graduate clinical training is defined by the Medical Practitioners Regulation to be 8 weeks of obstetrical training.

² See Statement 500 “Retraining of Inactive Physicians”.

**A statement is a formal position of the College with
which members shall comply.**