



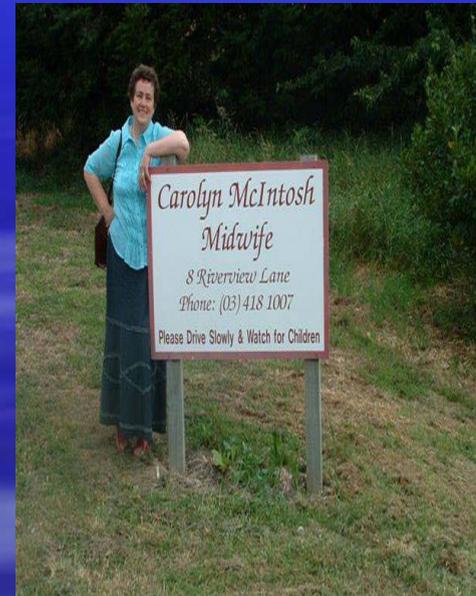
New Zealand College of Midwives





Midwives Today

- There are 4800 registered Midwives in New Zealand
- Over 2300 are actively practicing as midwives
- Their average age 47
- Almost all are women
- Almost 80% of women have a Midwife LMC
- All women have midwifery care regardless of their LMC
- Midwives can be self employed or employed





Partnership with Women

Is the underpinning philosophy and framework of everything we do

Partnership is a relationship of sharing between woman and midwife involving

- Trust
- Shared control and decision making
- Shared responsibility
- Shared meaning through understanding





Scope of practice

- A midwife works in partnership with women, on her own professional responsibility, to give women the necessary support, care and advice during pregnancy, labour and the postpartum period up to six weeks, to facilitate births and to provide care for the newborn.
- A midwife understands, promotes and facilitates the physiological processes of pregnancy and childbirth, identifies complications that may arise in mother and baby, accesses appropriate medical assistance, and implements emergency measures as necessary. When women require referral midwives provide midwifery care in collaboration with other health professionals.
- A Midwife has an important role in health and wellness promotion and education for the woman, her family and the community. Midwifery practice involves informing and preparing the woman and her family for pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and parenthood and includes certain aspects of women's health, family planning and infant well-being.
- A midwife may practise in any setting, including the home, the community, hospitals, or in any other maternity service. In all settings a midwife remains responsible and accountable for the care she provides.



Midwives- Primary and Public Health

- 1st point of contact with a health professional for many women
- The maternity system has developed around primary and public health principles
 - Continuity of care
 - Co-coordinated care across service areas, geographic boundaries
 - Community managed and provided services
- Public Health education messages - parent education inc breastfeeding and SIDS, nutrition, safety in the home, family violence, smoking cessation, immunisation,