

LAWS OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MIDWIVES

1. Any person shall be regarded as practicing midwifery within the meaning of the law who shall publicly profess or announce by advertisement, sign, card or otherwise, to be a midwife, or who shall for a fee attend to women in child-birth.
2. No person practicing midwifery in the State of Kentucky shall prescribe, or administer any drug or medicine except household remedies unless after consultation and upon the advice of a physician, nor shall she attend other than cases of labor.
3. A midwife must not attempt the use of instruments of any kind nor assist labor by any artificial, forcible or mechanical means, nor shall she insert her hand in the birth canal for any purpose, such as an attempt to perform version, remove adhered after-birth, examination, etc.
4. If a midwife is called to attend a case of labor and finds present, or there develop during the course of the labor any of the following symptoms or conditions, it is her duty to refer the patient to a licensed physician: 1. When the patient is a dwarf or deformed. 2. When there is repeated or continued bleeding, persistent vomiting, fits or convulsions. 3. When there is a swelling of parts and yellow purulent discharge or when there are warts or sores on the genitals. 4. When patient has swelling or tumor that obstructs the birth canal. 5. When labor is prolonged to more than 24 hours, or the patient becomes exhausted or collapsed.
5. When after labor is over there is discovered a severe tear of the parts, convulsions, severe bleeding, the patient has fever above 101 for 24 hours, or whenever breasts become red and swollen, or the nipples are severely cracked, the midwife should promptly urge the patient to call in a physician.
6. A midwife before attending the patient must be dressed in clean, freshly laundered (preferably white) clothing; must scrub her hands and arms with warm water and soap and should after ward wash the hands in a pan of water containing a teaspoonful of lysol or other antiseptic.
7. The midwife must see that the patient is dressed in a clean (preferably white) gown, and the bed clothing is clean at the beginning of labor and changed immediately after the attendance upon mother and child is completed.
8. The midwife must not give an injection of any kind into the birth canal without orders from a doctor, but should wash the abdomen and thighs with warm water and clean soap at beginning of labor and after placenta (after-birth) is discharged.
9. The midwife must read carefully and follow the instructions as to the care and feeding of infants which are contained in the midwives bulletin furnished by the State Board of Health or other booklets of advice received from the State Board of Health or U. S. Children's Bureau.
10. Under no circumstances must the midwife neglect to drop into the eyes of the new-born baby the drops of silver nitrate which is required by law, it being the duty of every midwife to secure the solution of silver nitrate from the State Board of Health, which furnishes it free of cost.
11. The midwife must conform to the law by reporting every birth to the Local Registrar within ten days after the child is born, and must keep a supply of blank birth certificates and supplemental blanks.
12. The State Board of Health hereby makes it permissible and urges that every midwife make a complete certificate of death for each still-birth occurring in her practice and deliver same together with a still-born birth record to the local registrar within ten days after birth. In the event a child is born alive but dies while she is in attendance, and no physician has been called in, the midwife must give all the facts to the County Health Officer in order that he may complete the certificate of death.