

Ministry of Health

Ministère de la Santé



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[Date]

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Presidents and Chief Executive Officers of Ontario Public Hospitals

**FROM:** **Dr. Catherine Zahn**  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Health

**RE:** Addressing challenges for midwives within Ontario's public hospitals

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Colleagues:

Challenges that midwives are facing within public hospitals has come to my attention.

Midwives provide high-quality maternal and newborn care to families across Ontario. They have the skills, knowledge, and clinical expertise to deliver care. Despite their contributions, midwives face obstacles to acquiring privileges that allow them to provide care that is within their legislated scope of practice to their clients.

The ministry respects the autonomy of hospital boards. However, I encourage your support in reviewing your organization's practices for privileging of midwives and enhancing midwifery integration and optimization within your hospital.

I encourage you to consult with the Ontario Hospitals Association on best practices on integration of midwifery services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Zahn  
Deputy Minister

c: Mr. Anthony Dale, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Hospital Association  
Mr. Matthew Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Health

Ms. Susan deRyk, Chief Regional Officer, Central and West Regions, Ontario Health  
Ms. Anna Greenberg, Chief Regional Officer, Toronto and East Regions, Ontario Health  
Mr. Brian Kytar, Chief Regional Officer, North East and North West Regions, Ontario Health  
Mr. Peter Kaftarian, Associate Deputy Minister, Clinical Care and Delivery, Ministry of Health  
Ms. Teresa Buchanan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Physician and Provider Services, Ministry of Health  
Ms. Nadia Surani, Director, Primary Health Care Branch, Ministry of Health  
Ms. Catherine Wang, Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Capital, Ministry of Health  
Ms. Tara Wilson, Director, Hospitals Branch, Ministry of Health  
Dr. Karima Velji, Chief of Nursing & Professional Practice and Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health  
Ms. Allison Henry, Director, Health Workforce Regulatory Oversight Branch, Ministry of Health

