

Mid-Western Regional Maternity Hospital Postnatal Ward M2 Learning Opportunities

Whilst on placement in the postnatal ward midwifery students will be given the opportunity to do the following at the appropriate level of learning:

- Admit women and babies to the ward
- Undertake a holistic postnatal examination of mother including recording vital signs using electronic or manual apparatus,
- Undertake a holistic examination of the newborn including observing baby's colour/alertness and feeding pattern (vigilance is the key)
- Assess, plan and implement postnatal care of women and babies
- Work in partnership with women providing information and facilitating informed decision making and choice
- Utilise effective and appropriate communication skills with mothers, partners, family and multidisciplinary team
- Participate in neonatal screening processes
- Document care provided under supervision and document written plans of individualised care for a mother or baby when required
- Support and advise mothers with infant feeding
- Take part in ward discussion, ward rounds, and attend appropriate multidisciplinary meetings and ward audits
- Understand health and safety aspects of postnatal care.
- Participate in the assessment, monitoring and administration of medication taking every opportunity to gain knowledge of use effect side effects of drugs used during the postnatal period

To learn and demonstrate learning a student might...

- Observe...
- Participate...
- Outline...
- Explain...
- Identify...
- Evaluate...
- Analyse...

Let's not forget the domains of competence
They represent the functions of a registered midwife

1. Professional /Ethical practice
2. Holistic Midwifery Practice
3. Interpersonal relationships
4. Organisational and co-ordination of midwifery care
5. Personal and professional development

- Appreciate the role of the midwife in medication management within the scope of practice.
- Gain an understanding of medical complications affecting women/baby's during postnatal period i.e Diabetes
- Gain experience in postnatal emergency situations
- Participate in health promotion and postnatal education
- Attend skills and drills education sessions
- Participate in ward management processes including giving report, co-ordinating ward activities and managing workload

• Enjoy your placement on M2, look for every opportunity to gain new Knowledge and skill as you advance on your path to becoming a midwife.

Year 1 BSc Midwifery Observer Participant.	Year 2 BSc Midwifery/ level 1 Higher Diploma Midwifery Novice Participant	Year 3 BSc Midwifery/ level 2 Higher Diploma Midwifery Supervised practitioner	Year 4 BSc Midwifery/ level 3 Higher Diploma Midwifery Competent practitioner
Please assess midwifery students recognising that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She/he is a novice to midwifery • Will require exposure to all aspects of midwifery care • Will be expected to participate in all aspects of care • Will be able to discuss basic concepts of care • Will need continuous prompting and considerable direction 	Please assess midwifery students recognising that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She/he will have had some exposure and participation in the provision of care • She/he will still need assistance and direct supervision • She/he may require frequent prompting • She/he should begin to identify his/her learning needs 	Please assess midwifery students recognising that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She/he can identify the needs of women and their families • Can begin to adopt a problem solving approach to care • Actively participate in the care of women and babies • Provide rationale for his/her actions Please understand it might be difficult for the midwifery student to prioritise care, but should demonstrate the awareness of the need for best practice and can identify their own learning needs	Please assess midwifery students recognising that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She/he can apply a systematic approach to care • Can demonstrate evidence based practice and critical thinking • Is capable of supporting and monitoring women, families and junior colleagues • She/he possesses many attributes including- practical and technical skills, communication and interpersonal skills organizational and managerial skills • Has the ability to perform as part of the health care team • Demonstrates a professional attitude, accepting responsibility for their own practice.

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