



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

- Admit a woman to the labour ward
- Assess plan and implement the holistic care of a woman in labour including: physical observations such as blood pressure (using manual sphygmomanometer and automatic machine), pulse, respirations and temperature (IMEWS) and an abdominal examination
- Undertake the care and planning of care of a woman being admitted but not in labour
- Communicate with women, their partners and the multidisciplinary team
- Work in partnership with women providing information and facilitating informed decision making and choice
- Support a woman's emotional and psychological needs during labour
- Discuss and support women regarding pain relief options
- Assess and monitor a woman's progress in labour
- Assess fetal wellbeing by using a pinard, a hand held Doppler and a cardiotocograph machine
- Support women in physiological birth
- Appreciate the role of the midwife in the management of physiological and active third stage of labour
- Take cord blood for cord pH and grouping

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

- Recognise deviations from normal, emergency situations, high risk situations and provide appropriate care
- Take cord blood for cord pH and grouping
 - Liaise with obstetric staff and assist them if needed
 - Assess the woman's wellbeing immediately after birth
 - Participate in the assessment, monitoring and administration of medication and appreciate the role of the midwife in medication management within the scope of practice
- Initiate skin to skin with mother and baby, and infant feeding
- Undertake an initial examination of the newborn and participate in neonatal resuscitation
- Transfer a woman and baby to the postnatal ward
- Attend ward meetings, ward education sessions and skills and drills for obstetric emergencies

Developed by MPDU. Reviewed 2007, 2009, 2011,2014.

Year 1 BSc Midwifery Observer Participant.	Year 2 BSc Midwifery/ Novice Participant	Year 3 BSc Midwifery/ Supervised practitioner	Year 4 BSc 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.

