

St Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny Labour Ward Learning Opportunities

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

- Complete an admission and initial holistic assessment of a woman to labour ward
- Work in partnership with women providing information and facilitate informed decision making
- Undertake the care and planning of care of a woman being admitted but not in labour
- Practice clinical decision making skills in relation to care provided to women
- Communicate effectively with women, their family and the multidisciplinary team
- Assess, plan and implement the holistic care of a woman in labour
- Assess and monitor fetal wellbeing
- Assess and monitor maternal wellbeing e.g. observations + use of IMEWS
- Assess and monitor progress in labour

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

- Support a woman's psychological and physical needs in labour including the provision of pain relief
- Support women in physiological birth
- Appreciate the role of the midwife in the management of physiological and active third stage of labour
- Examine a newborn baby and participate in neonatal resuscitation
- Recognise deviations from normal, emergency situations, high risk situations and provide appropriate care
- Support mothers with skin to skin contact and initiation of infant feeding

- Assess the woman's wellbeing immediately after birth
- Participate in the assessment, monitoring and administration of medication
- Appreciate the role of the midwife in medication management within the scope of practice
- Manage workload and time management, including the prioritising of care
- Liaise with the multidisciplinary team, attend team meetings and skills and drills sessions
- Care for women experiencing bereavement and loss
- Acknowledge the woman's birth partner and family in the birth process
- Transfer a woman and baby to the postnatal ward
- Document the care provided under supervision

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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.

