



THE SEYCHELLES NURSES AND MIDWIVES COUNCIL

GUIDELINES FOR INDEPENDENT NURSING AND MIDWIFERY PRACTICE IN SEYCHELLES

1. Introduction

The Nurses and Midwives Regulation, Section 13(2) (a) states that in the exercise and discharge of his /her professional duties, practices, and procedures every registered nurse or midwife shall:

accept only such compensation for the exercise and discharge of professional duties practices and procedures as may be provided for in terms of employment of the nurse or midwife.

Therefore no Registered Nurse or Registered Midwife shall charge a fee or receive any other consideration in cash or kind for providing nursing and midwifery care unless he/she

- i) Complies with the Seychelles Nurses and Midwives Council's minimum requirement for a Nursing/Midwifery practice
- ii) Abides to other rules and regulation governing independent nursing or midwifery practice
- ii) Holds a valid business licence from the Seychelles Licence Authority (SLA)/PHA

2. Definition:

Nursing or midwifery service means the practice of nursing or midwifery by a nurse or midwife in a hospital ,clinic , health unit maternity unit birth centre, private practices, home birth, community or otherwise.

Independent nursing/midwifery practice means the private practice of nursing or midwifery by a registered practicing nurse/midwife by setting up of/ or operating a business premises or an establishment or self-employed basis on payment of a fee or charge whether in cash or otherwise.

3. Application Criteria for Independent Nursing and Midwifery Practice in Seychelles

A licence to provide independent nursing and midwifery care may be granted to:

- 3.1 Any Registered Nurse/Midwife with a valid practice licence with the Seychelles Nurses & Midwives Council who has obtained:

- a) a minimum of 5 years continuous practical experience in the public or private health sector, locally or aboard for any Nurse / Midwife who wishes to employ and deploy other registered nurses / midwives.
- b) a minimum 3 years continuous practical experience in the public or private health sector, locally or aboard for any Nurse / Midwife who wishes to practice on his / her own.
- c) a valid certificate for in Basic life support
- d) a current police clearance record

3.2 The recommendation of the Seychelles Nurses and Midwives Council will be conveyed to the Commissioner of Health, for consideration and submission to appropriate Authority.

4. Standards of Care

The Nurse / Midwife shall:

- 4.1 Comply with the Nurses and Midwives Act 1985 (Cap. 150).
- 4.2 Comply with the Seychelles Nurses and Midwives Council's Codes of Practice for Nurses / Midwives under the Nurses and midwives regulations 1989 Sections 13 (5) and 13 (6)
- 4.3 Comply with Seychelles Nurses and Midwives Councils Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct.
- 4.4 Practice within the scope of his / her qualifications, knowledge and skills; applying current and relevant procedures and policies.
- 4.5 Be personally accountable and responsible for providing safe and competent care to his / her clients and to the law for her actions.
- 4.6 Obtain informed consent before care or treatment is given.
- 4.7 Keep all information strictly confidential. The choice to disclose information in view of public's best interest must be carefully considered and actions justified.
- 4.8 Be responsible to refer the patient to an appropriate healthcare professional, to meet the health care needs of the patient / client when outside her boundary of care.
- 4.9 Maintain complete, legible, dated and signed nursing records, which accurately document the assessment, plan of care, nursing actions and outcomes of care.

5. Continuing Professional Nursing Education

The Nurse /Midwife is encouraged to attend relevant seminars / conferences and nursing courses so as to be current with his / her knowledge and skills to acquire the minimum points needed for the renewal of the nursing/midwifery license/ registration.

6. Offence / Disciplinary Action

A registered Nurse / registered Midwife practising independently who fails to practice within the professional scope of practice or to comply with the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1985 (Cap. 150), the Code of Ethics and Code of professional Conduct, shall be liable for disciplinary action under the Nurses and Midwives Act 1985 (Cap. 150)

Note: Employers are responsible to ensure that the nurses and midwives they employ or wish to employ not only hold a registration certificate issued in Seychelles by the Nurses and Midwives Council but also proof that the registration is still valid and that they are currently entered in the appropriate registers and therefore permitted to practice the profession.