

Changes to scheduled medicine authorities: Endorsed midwives

The authority in the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996* (HDPR) for midwives with a national scheduled medicines endorsement provides that the practice must occur under the Midwives Drug Therapy Protocol (DTP).

Regulation changes

On 8 November 2018, the HDPR was amended to provide new authorities for certain health practitioners in relation to use of scheduled drugs and poisons. This included changes to the way in which authorities for midwives with a national scheduled medicines endorsement are provided. The changes remove the requirement for endorsed midwives to work under the Midwives DTP.

Who do these changes apply to?

These changes apply to endorsed midwives working in Queensland. An endorsed midwife is a midwife whose registration is endorsed under section 94 of the Health Practitioner National Law, as being qualified to administer, obtain, possess, prescribe, sell, supply or use a medicine for midwifery practice.

New authorities for endorsed midwives

The amendments authorise endorsed midwives to:

- prescribe, administer or supply a controlled or restricted drug
- give someone who may administer or supply a controlled or restricted drug an oral or written instruction to administer or supply the drug
- prescribe or supply an S2 or S3 poison
- give someone who may administer or supply an S2 or S3 poison an oral or written instruction to administer or supply the poison.

An endorsed midwife can only perform the above activities to the extent necessary to practise midwifery. Performing the above activities is in addition to the endorsed midwife's authority as a midwife.

Operationalising these changes

Endorsed midwives should:

- ensure that they understand the scope of the changes and how this will impact on their clinical practice.



For more information

Review the [legislation](#)

Contact the Office of the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer on (07) 3328 9050 or email ocnmo_corro@health.qld.gov.au.