

# Changes to scheduled medicine authorities: Endorsed Midwife

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

In 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 endorsed midwives to work under the Midwives DTP.

## Who do these changes apply to?

These changes apply to midwives working in Queensland. An endorsed midwife is a midwife whose registration is endorsed under the Health Practitioner National Law, section 94, 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, or
- give someone who may 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, or
- 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 practice 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](mailto:ocnmo_corro@health.qld.gov.au).

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