Midwifery practice decision flowchart

START

Activity to achieve desired/beneficial outcome for the woman/newborn

Scope of practice
Is this activity within the current/contemporary scope of midwifery practice?

YES

Level of support/education and supervision
Does the organisation in which the activity will be performed have a policy, quality and risk management framework, sufficient staffing levels and access to other health professionals to support this activity?

YES

Risk assessment
Does this activity need to be performed by a midwife because of any one of the following?
- Commonwealth or state legislation
- The woman’s or newborn’s health status
- The complexity of care required by the woman or newborn
- The knowledge/skill required to perform the activity safely
- Professional standards or evidence
- The model of care or local/organisational policy

YES

Level of support/education and supervision
Could you (or another midwife) perform the activity with further education, support or supervision by a more experienced midwife?

YES

Professional consensus
Does the midwifery profession support delegation of this activity to non-midwives?

YES

Preparation & experience
Is the midwifery profession support delegation of this activity to non-midwives?

YES

Level of support/education and supervision
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YES

Beneficial outcomes
Are you confident that the outcomes of delegating this activity to a non-midwife will achieve the desired outcomes?

YES

Organisational support
Do local policies/guidelines/protocols support the delegation of this activity to a non-midwife?

YES

Level of support/education and supervision
Could you (or another midwife) perform the activity with further education, support or supervision by a more experienced midwife?

YES

Preparation & experience
Does the midwifery profession support delegation of this activity to non-midwives?

YES

Preparation & experience
Is there evidence to support the delegation of this activity to non-midwives?

YES

Preparation & experience
Are you or another midwife able to provide the level of supervision required for this person to safely perform the activity?

YES

Supervision
Are you or another midwife able to provide the support, education, competence assessment and supervision?

YES

Supervision
Could this or another person perform the activity with midwife support/education/competence assessment?

YES

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