

Course Title: **Prescribing and Legislation for Midwives**

Course Code: **MIDW702**

Descriptor Start Date: **02/01/2026**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **7**

PREREQUISITE/S: **PHMY701**

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

LEARNING HOURS

Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

Total learning hours: 150

PRESCRIPTOR

Explores the legislative frameworks that inform midwifery practice and prepares students for the competence of prescribing.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates partnership, Cultural Safety and Kawa Whakaruruhau in relation to Prescribing and Legislation for midwifery practice.
2. Apply knowledge and skills that underpin midwifery practice in relation to prescribing and legislation.
3. Integrate midwifery practice reasoning within midwifery prescribing and legislation.
4. Communicate effectively in relation to prescribing and legislation.
5. Recognise professionalism within the scope of midwifery practice.

Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters

CONTENT

- Whānau centred care
- Cultural safety
- Legislation pertaining to midwifery practice, pregnancy, labour, birth, the postnatal period, and neonates (including HDC, ACC, contraception, termination, privacy, adoption, domestic violence, vulnerable children, parental leave, birth and death requirements, primary maternity notice, HPCAA, referral guidelines, notifiable diseases)
- Regulatory authority (MCNZ) role regarding public safety
- History of midwifery legislation in NZ
- Antimicrobials and resistance
- Named opioids and restrictions for designated prescribers, implementation and analgesics used during childbirth continuum
- Medicines used in maternity
- Prescribing for common conditions including anaemia, infections, heartburn, analgesics, and contraception
- Medication safety during the childbirth continuum
- Prescription writing and prescribing competently within midwifery scope of practice
- Organizational structures including Pharmac, NZ Formulary, Medsafe, and ULM

LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

Educational methods include the use of lectures, discussion, use of online learning environment, workbooks, student presentations group and individual self-directed learning.

ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Presentation (1000 words)	40.00	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5
Examination (2 hours)	60.00	LO2, LO3

Grade Map	MAP1
	A+ A A- Pass with Distinction
	B+ B B- Pass with Merit
	C+ C C- Pass
	D Fail

Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

Students must achieve an overall average grade of at least C- across all summative assessments to pass the course.

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LEARNING RESOURCES

Midwifery Council of NZ (2010). *Code of Conduct* MCNZ Reprinted in 2021

<https://www.midwiferycouncil.health.nz/common/Uploaded%20files/Registration/Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf> Hunter, M., & Davis, D. (2023). Pharmacology and prescribing. In S. Pairman, S. Tracy, H. Dahlen, & L. Dixon (Eds.) *Midwifery: Preparation for Practice* (Chapter 33, 5 ed., pp. 795 - 818), Elsevier Midwifery Council of New Zealand *Statement of cultural competence for midwives (Document no date)* <https://www.midwiferycouncil.health.nz/common/Uploaded%20files/About%20Us/Statement%20on%20cultural%20competence.pdf> Midwifery Council of New Zealand *Statement on Cultural Competence webpage* <https://midwiferycouncil.health.nz/Public/Public/06.-I-am-a-registered-midwife/1.-Standards-of-Clinical---Cultural%20Competence---Conduct.aspx>

For further information, contact: Te Ara Hauora A Putaiao - Faculty of Health & Environmental Science

Principal Programme: AK1035, Bachelor of Health Science (Midwifery)

Related Programme/s: AK1035 Bachelor of Health Science (Midwifery)

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