



# POSITION STATEMENT

## **CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES AND CERTIFIED MIDWIVES AS PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS/CASE MANAGERS**

It is the position of the American College of Nurse-Midwives that Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs) are providers of primary health care for women and newborns.

Care by CNMs and CMs incorporates all of the essential factors of primary care and case management that include evaluation, assessment, treatment and referral as required. The model of health care practiced by CNMs and CMs is focused on the ambulatory care of women and newborns and emphasizes health promotion, education and disease prevention and sees the woman as central to the process of providing such care.

Care by CNMs and CMs includes preconception counseling, care during pregnancy and childbirth, provision of gynecological and contraceptive services and care of the peri- and post-menopausal woman. With health education as a major focus, the goals are to prevent problems and to assist women in developing and maintaining healthy habits.

CNMs and CMs are often the initial contact for providing health care to women, and they provide such care on a continuous and comprehensive basis by establishing a plan of management with the woman for her ongoing health care. Such care by the CNMs and CMs is inclusive and integrated with the woman's cultural, socioeconomic and psychological factors that may influence her health status.

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\* Midwifery as used throughout this document refers to the education and practice of certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) and certified midwives (CMs) who have been certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) or the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB), formerly the American College of Nurse-Midwives Certification Council, Inc. (ACC).

Source: Board of Directors  
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