Qualifications for Expert Witness in Midwifery

An expert witness in midwifery reviews health care records and legal documents related to a negligence claim or licensing investigation and testifies under oath about the standard of care for midwifery practice. The American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) suggests the following qualifications for an expert witness in midwifery:

- Graduation from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education,
- Current certification from the American Midwifery Certification Board,
- A minimum of 5 years of practice experience in the field of midwifery,
- Current state licensure to practice midwifery,
- Practice experience in the specific area of midwifery relevant to the claim,
- Review and testimony based on evidence-based practice, and
- Use of ACNM’s definition of midwifery practice,1 Core Competencies for Midwifery Practice,2 Standards for the Practice of Midwifery,3 and related documents.

REFERENCES


Note. 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 Midwifery Certification Board, Inc. (AMCB).

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