

# New Zealand Midwifery legislation Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## 1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Don't worry about getting everything right, your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## 2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 3. Learn from the Explanations

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## 4. Track Your Progress

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## 5. Simulate the Real Exam

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## 6. Repeat and Review

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly — adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

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## **Questions**

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- 1. What is considered serious enough for a complaint to be escalated?**
  - A. Concerns about the competence of midwives**
  - B. Threats against healthcare consumers**
  - C. Complaints that persist over a prolonged period**
  - D. Any allegation made against a midwife**
- 2. Which scenario exemplifies a midwife's duty to advocate for a client?**
  - A. Encouraging a client to follow doctor's orders without question**
  - B. Promoting the use of certain medical interventions**
  - C. Supporting a client's decision against medical advice**
  - D. Advising a client to seek a second opinion only if asked**
- 3. What is a requirement for a stillbirth to be legally recognized?**
  - A. The baby must weigh at least 400 grams at birth**
  - B. The baby must be born from 21 weeks of pregnancy**
  - C. Both must be true**
  - D. Neither is necessary for legal recognition**
- 4. What is the focus of the Competence Review Panel during its evaluations?**
  - A. The financial status of the midwives**
  - B. The midwives' educational background**
  - C. The standards of care provided by midwives**
  - D. The overall health system performance**
- 5. What is the legal obligation of a midwife regarding information shared about family violence?**
  - A. Midwives must report all instances of family violence.**
  - B. Midwives can share any information they receive.**
  - C. Only share information relevant to immediate harm and document it.**
  - D. Midwives cannot share any information regarding family violence.**

**6. What should a midwife do if they are unable to manage an emergency during childbirth?**

- A. Continue with the birth and hope for the best**
- B. Call for assistance from non-medical personnel**
- C. Refer the patient to the appropriate medical professional**
- D. Delay until they feel more capable**

**7. What educational qualifications must a midwife in New Zealand possess?**

- A. A high school diploma**
- B. A bachelor's degree in midwifery or equivalent qualification**
- C. A medical degree**
- D. A diploma in nursing**

**8. What is one example of when it is recommended to consult during maternity care?**

- A. Routine blood tests**
- B. Well controlled gestational diabetes mellitus**
- C. Postpartum check-up**
- D. Normal fetal development**

**9. Who comprises the Competence Review Panel?**

- A. One or two legal professionals**
- B. One or two lay persons**
- C. One or two midwives**
- D. Three representatives from the same profession**

**10. In what year was the Crimes Act passed?**

- A. 1951**
- B. 1961**
- C. 1971**
- D. 1981**

## **Answers**

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- 1. A**
- 2. C**
- 3. C**
- 4. C**
- 5. C**
- 6. C**
- 7. B**
- 8. B**
- 9. C**
- 10. B**

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What is considered serious enough for a complaint to be escalated?

- A. Concerns about the competence of midwives**
- B. Threats against healthcare consumers**
- C. Complaints that persist over a prolonged period**
- D. Any allegation made against a midwife**

Concerns about the competence of midwives are significant because they directly relate to the quality of care and the safety of consumers. In midwifery, competence includes the skills, knowledge, and judgment needed to provide adequate care, which is fundamental to maintaining the health and wellbeing of mothers and babies. If there are serious concerns regarding a midwife's ability to perform their duties effectively, it can result in serious consequences for those under their care. Such issues must be taken seriously and can warrant escalation to ensure that the safety and quality of maternity services are upheld. Therefore, when assessing complaints in the context of midwifery practices, competence-related concerns are deemed serious enough to warrant further investigation and action. The other choices, while they may seem concerning, do not carry the same weight in terms of the immediate impact on the quality of care. Threats against healthcare consumers, although critical and serious, may be addressed through different types of protective measures or legal action rather than a professional competency review. Complaints that persist over a prolonged period may reveal systemic issues but do not inherently point to a singular serious concern. Lastly, not every allegation made against a midwife is necessarily serious enough to warrant escalation; it greatly depends on the nature and context of

## 2. Which scenario exemplifies a midwife's duty to advocate for a client?

- A. Encouraging a client to follow doctor's orders without question**
- B. Promoting the use of certain medical interventions**
- C. Supporting a client's decision against medical advice**
- D. Advising a client to seek a second opinion only if asked**

The scenario that exemplifies a midwife's duty to advocate for a client is when the midwife supports a client's decision against medical advice. This reflects the core principles of informed consent and client autonomy. In midwifery practice, it is crucial to respect each client's choices regarding their own care, even if those choices differ from medical recommendations. By supporting a client's decision, the midwife acknowledges the client's right to make informed decisions about their own health and birthing experience. This approach fosters a trusting relationship and empowers clients, enabling them to feel heard and valued in the decision-making process. It is essential for midwives to advocate for their clients, ensuring that their wishes and values are respected throughout their care, even when those decisions may not align with standard medical advice.

### 3. What is a requirement for a stillbirth to be legally recognized?

- A. The baby must weigh at least 400 grams at birth**
- B. The baby must be born from 21 weeks of pregnancy**
- C. Both must be true**
- D. Neither is necessary for legal recognition**

For a stillbirth to be legally recognized in New Zealand, both criteria must be met: the baby must weigh at least 400 grams at birth, and the baby must be born from 21 weeks of pregnancy. This legal framework is grounded in the desire to provide a clear and consistent definition for medical and administrative purposes. The weight requirement of 400 grams establishes a physical threshold that helps determine the viability of the fetus at the time of birth. This is critical, as it reflects the potential for survival outside the womb. Similarly, the gestational age of 21 weeks is significant because it marks a point in fetal development where the likelihood of survival begins to increase. By setting this minimum gestational age, the law acknowledges the developmental milestones a fetus must reach to be considered stillborn in a legal context. Both these criteria work together to inform healthcare providers, families, and legal systems regarding the status of a stillbirth, ensuring that the recognition process is consistent and equitable.

### 4. What is the focus of the Competence Review Panel during its evaluations?

- A. The financial status of the midwives**
- B. The midwives' educational background**
- C. The standards of care provided by midwives**
- D. The overall health system performance**

The focus of the Competence Review Panel during its evaluations is on the standards of care provided by midwives. This panel is primarily concerned with ensuring that midwives meet the required competencies and are delivering safe, effective, and quality care to their clients. Evaluating the standards of care involves assessing how well midwives apply their knowledge, skills, and clinical judgment in practice, which is vital for promoting positive health outcomes for mothers and babies. By concentrating on the quality of care, the panel aims to uphold the professional standards set forth in midwifery legislation, ensuring that midwives are competent in their roles and are adhering to the ethical responsibilities that govern their practice. This process plays a crucial role in maintaining the integrity of the midwifery profession and ensuring public trust in the services provided. The other response options do not align with the primary objective of the Competence Review Panel. Financial status and educational background may be elements considered for different purposes, but they do not directly reflect the competence or the standard of care provided by midwives. Evaluating the overall health system performance is too broad a focus and does not specifically pertain to the individual assessment of midwives' competencies.

## 5. What is the legal obligation of a midwife regarding information shared about family violence?

- A. Midwives must report all instances of family violence.
- B. Midwives can share any information they receive.
- C. Only share information relevant to immediate harm and document it.**
- D. Midwives cannot share any information regarding family violence.

The legal obligation of a midwife in relation to family violence primarily revolves around the need to prioritize the safety of the individuals involved while ensuring compliance with privacy laws. By only sharing information relevant to immediate harm, a midwife is acting in accordance with the principles of informed consent and confidentiality, which are cornerstones of midwifery practice. In situations where there is a risk of immediate harm, it is important to communicate necessary information to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the patient and any children involved. Documentation of these instances is also critical, as it provides a record of what was shared and the rationale behind it, which can be essential for both legal and ethical accountability. This approach balances the complexities of confidentiality and the duty to protect individuals from harm, aligning with midwifery guidelines and legal frameworks in New Zealand. Sharing any information without careful consideration, or failing to report necessary details about immediate harm, could lead to consequences that compromise the safety of those affected or violate professional obligations and legal requirements. This demonstrates the importance of understanding the nuances surrounding information-sharing in cases of family violence.

## 6. What should a midwife do if they are unable to manage an emergency during childbirth?

- A. Continue with the birth and hope for the best
- B. Call for assistance from non-medical personnel
- C. Refer the patient to the appropriate medical professional**
- D. Delay until they feel more capable

If a midwife is unable to manage an emergency during childbirth, the appropriate course of action is to refer the patient to the appropriate medical professional. In emergency situations, quick and effective communication with a medical team or specialist is crucial for ensuring the safety of both the mother and the baby. Midwives are trained to recognize when a situation exceeds their scope of practice or requires a higher level of medical intervention. This choice aligns with the principles of collaborative practice in maternity care, where midwives work alongside obstetricians and other healthcare providers to ensure comprehensive care. By promptly referring the patient, the midwife ensures that the necessary expertise and resources can be mobilized to address the emergency effectively, minimizing potential risks or complications. Continuing with the birth without the necessary skills or resources could endanger the mother and infant's wellbeing. Similarly, relying on non-medical personnel for assistance does not provide the needed medical support. Delaying action due to a lack of confidence can also result in harm, as addressing emergencies requires timely intervention. Thus, referring to a medical professional is the safest and most responsible action in such scenarios.

**7. What educational qualifications must a midwife in New Zealand possess?**

- A. A high school diploma**
- B. A bachelor's degree in midwifery or equivalent qualification**
- C. A medical degree**
- D. A diploma in nursing**

A midwife in New Zealand must possess a bachelor's degree in midwifery or an equivalent qualification to be eligible for practice. This educational requirement reflects the professionalism and specialized training necessary for midwifery, ensuring that practitioners are adequately prepared to provide safe and competent care to mothers and newborns. The bachelor's degree program typically includes comprehensive training in areas such as anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and clinical practice, which equips midwives with the requisite knowledge and skills. Furthermore, the program includes hands-on supervised practice, which is crucial for developing the clinical judgment necessary in midwifery. This qualification is overseen by the Midwifery Council of New Zealand, which mandates this level of education to maintain high standards within the profession. In contrast, a high school diploma, a medical degree, or a diploma in nursing do not fulfill the specific educational criteria for becoming a registered midwife, as they either lack the necessary scope of training related directly to midwifery or pertain to different healthcare professions.

**8. What is one example of when it is recommended to consult during maternity care?**

- A. Routine blood tests**
- B. Well controlled gestational diabetes mellitus**
- C. Postpartum check-up**
- D. Normal fetal development**

Consultation during maternity care is particularly recommended in cases of well-controlled gestational diabetes mellitus because it involves managing a condition that could affect both the mother and the fetus. While gestational diabetes can be well-managed, it still requires careful monitoring to ensure that both the mother's and baby's needs are being met. Consulting with an obstetrician or a diabetes care team can help provide additional support and guidance on monitoring blood sugar levels and adjusting treatment as necessary, thus ensuring positive outcomes for both the mother and the baby. In contrast, routine blood tests, postpartum check-ups, and assessments of normal fetal development are typically managed by midwives without the need for additional consultation. These situations do not usually indicate complications that require specialized intervention, making them less critical for consultation compared to well-controlled gestational diabetes.

## 9. Who comprises the Competence Review Panel?

- A. One or two legal professionals
- B. One or two lay persons
- C. One or two midwives**
- D. Three representatives from the same profession

The Competence Review Panel is primarily made up of one or two midwives who are recognized as practitioners within the field. This structure ensures that the panel members possess relevant professional experience and insights into midwifery practice, which is essential for making informed assessments regarding a midwife's competence. The inclusion of midwives allows the panel to evaluate clinical skills, decision-making processes, and adherence to professional standards effectively, offering a nuanced perspective that only professionals who are actively engaged within the field can provide. Having practitioners as panel members is vital in maintaining the quality of the panel's assessments, as they can draw from their own experiences and understanding of the complexities and challenges that midwives face in practice. This focus on professional relevance aligns with the purpose of the Competence Review, which is to ensure the ongoing competency of midwives for the safety and well-being of mothers and their babies.

## 10. In what year was the Crimes Act passed?

- A. 1951
- B. 1961**
- C. 1971
- D. 1981

The Crimes Act was passed in 1961 and serves as a significant piece of legislation in New Zealand's legal framework. This act consolidated and modernized various laws related to criminal offenses, replacing earlier legislation, such as the Crimes Act 1908. The 1961 enactment aimed to address the evolving nature of crime and societal norms by providing clearer regulations and definitions of criminal behavior, ensuring that the law remained relevant to contemporary circumstances. The act includes provisions related to offenses against the person, property crimes, and public order offenses, among others, thereby impacting multiple areas of criminal justice. Understanding the background and the year of this act is essential for comprehending the evolution of legal standards and practices in New Zealand.

# Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://nzmidwiferylegislation.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**

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