



## The McKesson Problem

California Licensed midwives are authorized to directly obtain supplies and devices, obtain and administer drugs and diagnostic tests, order testing, and receive reports that are necessary to the practice of midwifery and consistent with his or her scope of practice. [B&P Code 2507 \(f\)](#)

Are you having trouble with order from McKesson? You are not alone. The problem is not a California licensed midwife problem, but a McKesson customer service problem. Every week California licensed midwife's orders are not being filled by McKesson. Here is some information that might be helpful.

In 2019 CALM was contacted by McKesson to confirm the California LM scope and authority to "procure and administer" medications and medical supplies. The individual from McKesson was Heather Jones, Regulatory Affairs Specialist. Ms Jones said to offer herself as point of contact for any order holds by McKesson in the future:

So if you are continuing to have problems: contact Heather Jones, Regulatory Affairs Specialist [heather.jones2@mckesson.com](mailto:heather.jones2@mckesson.com) via email if you continue to have problems.

Additional information: when orders are held by McKesson they often refer to our statute that list some education requirements rather than our scope. Because they are not familiar with our scope, licensed midwives we must educate and interpret it for them.

Medical Board Website <https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Midwives/>

Medical Board Summary of the LMPA  
[https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Midwives/Midwives\\_Practice\\_Act.aspx](https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Midwives/Midwives_Practice_Act.aspx)

Business and Profession Code Sections 2505-2521 [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=BPC&division=2.&title=&part=&chapter=5.&article=24](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=BPC&division=2.&title=&part=&chapter=5.&article=24).

Article 24. Licensed Midwives 2507.3(f) A midwife is authorized to directly obtain supplies and devices, obtain and administer drugs and diagnostic tests, order testing, and receive reports that are necessary to his or her practice of midwifery and consistent with his or her scope of practice.

California Code of Regulations, Sections 1379.1 – 1379.31  
[https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I338BC9D0D48D11DEBC02831C6D6C108E&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/California/CaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I338BC9D0D48D11DEBC02831C6D6C108E&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default))

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President  
California Association of Licensed Midwives  
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Attached is a letter from CALM summarizing the situation and a partial list of commonly used supplies and medications.



## Authorized procurement and administration of medications and supplies for California Licensed Midwives

California licensed midwives (LM) are authorized to practice by the California licensed midwifery practice act. LMs are regulated by the Medical Board of California. LMs practice independently, not under the supervision of a physician LMs are not nurse midwives, who are regulated by the California Board of Registered Nurses. LMs do not prescribe, and there is not a formulary to which they adhere.

### Summary of the Licensed Midwifery Practice Act ([from the Medical Board of California website](#))

The Midwifery Practice Act specifies the requirements for licensure and the scope of practice for a licensed midwife. Assembly Bill 1308 (Bonilla, Chapter 665, Statutes of 2013) made significant amendments to various Business and Professions Code sections governing the practice of midwifery in California. The changes become effective January 1, 2014. The law provides that:

- The holder of a midwifery license may attend cases of normal pregnancy and childbirth (see definition below) and provide prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care, including family-planning care, for the mother, and immediate care for the newborn.
- The practice of midwifery does not include the assisting of childbirth by any artificial, forcible, or mechanical means, nor the performance of any version of these means.
- Midwives are not authorized to practice medicine or to perform surgery.
- Licensed midwives are authorized to directly obtain supplies and devices, obtain and administer drugs and diagnostic tests, order testing, and receive reports that are necessary to the practice of midwifery and consistent with his or her scope of practice.
- No person, other than a licensed midwife, may hold himself/herself out as a licensed midwife or use any other term which may indicate or imply that he/she is a licensed midwife.

Complete language here: [California Licensed Midwifery Practice Act](#)

The following is a partial list of commonly used assessment tools, emergency medications, supplies and prophylactic medications used with scope of the California licensed midwives:

BP monitor, fetal doppler, medical grade thermometer, newborn resuscitation equipment and supplies (resuscitation board, heating pad, thermal wrap, neonatal Ambu bag, O2, suctioning equipment/supplies), IV supplies (lactated ringers, IV catheters), urinary catheters, instruments for delivery (i.e. surgical scissors, hemostats), oxygen tanks and masks/tubing, antihemorrhagic medications (i.e. Pitocin, methergine, Cytotec, tranexamic acid), terbutaline, epinephrine (aka, EpiPen), newborn Vitamin K, newborn prophylactic eye ointment, phlebotomy supplies and injection needles/syringes, suturing instruments, lidocaine, suture material, cleanup supplies/equipment, sharps disposal, underpads, sterile and non-sterile gloves, baby scale (digital or analog), newborn cardiac pulse ox, doppler gel, Prophylactic antibiotics for prophylactic treatment of Group B Strep Positive (according to CDC recommendations), newborn lancets and hazardous waste disposal supplies.

**This list is not exhaustive.** Check with the individual midwife for consistency with her individual scope of practice.