

From: [Jones, Heather \(2\)](#)
To: [Webb, Kerrie@MBC](mailto:Webb_Kerrie@MBC); president@calmidwives.org
Cc: "Vickii Gervais"; [Mills, Jason G](#); [Diane Holzer](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] for your information
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020 7:45:04 AM

Good Morning Ms. Webb,

Thank you for your response, this is the exact clarification that McKesson was requesting. I will update our records to reflect this guidance. Again, Thank you very much and I hope you have a great Thursday.

Regards,

Heather Jones

Specialist, Regulatory Affairs Associate | t 804.553.2054
McKesson Medical-Surgical

McKesson | 9954 Mayland Drive Suite 4000, Richmond, VA 23233 | www.mckesson.com

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From: Webb, Kerrie@MBC <Kerrie.Webb@mbc.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 9:38 PM
To: Jones, Heather (2) <Heather.Jones2@McKesson.com>; president@calmidwives.org
Cc: 'Vickii Gervais' <vickii@homebirthmidwife.com>; Mills, Jason G <Jason.Mills@McKesson.com>; Diane Holzer <midwife@laughingcrows.net>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] for your information

Dear Ms. Jones:

I am the staff attorney for the Medical Board of California (Board).

The Board does not provide a list of drugs approved for midwifery care, and midwives are not required to seek Board nor physician approval for directly obtaining supplies, devices, drugs or diagnostic tests necessary for the practice of midwifery and consistent with the midwifery scope of practice. See California Business and Professions Code section 2507(f).

Midwives are trained and expected to address emergencies that may arise. See Business and Professions Code section 2512.5 generally, and subdivision (a)(3)(H)(viii), specifically.

If the Board learns that a midwife is using a drug outside of their scope of practice, then the Board investigates and takes disciplinary action, as appropriate. Many drugs, such as misoprostol, have more than one use, some of which are within the midwifery scope of practice and some of which are not. Individual midwives who practice outside of their scope, and use a drug inappropriately, subject their license to discipline. As indicated above, there is not a Board list of approved or banned drugs for use by midwives.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this matter.

Sincerely,



Kerrie Webb, Attorney III
Medical Board of California - Executive Office
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 263-2389 (main)
(916) 263-2438 (desk)



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From: Jones, Heather (2) <Heather.Jones2@McKesson.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 1:37 PM

To: president@calmidwives.org

Cc: 'Vickii Gervais' <vickii@homebirthmidwife.com>; Mills, Jason G <Jason.Mills@McKesson.com>; Webb, Kerrie@MBC <Kerrie.Webb@mbc.ca.gov>; Diane Holzer <midwife@laughingcrows.net>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] for your information

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Contact the Help Desk if you have any questions or concerns.

Good Afternoon Ms. Davis,

I have escalated your emails to my legal department. They are actively working to find regulatory authority or guidance from the Board that instructs McKesson that selling this drug to midwives is permissible.

I do apologize for this inconvenience.

Regards,

Heather Jones

Specialist, Regulatory Affairs Associate | t 804.553.2054
McKesson Medical-Surgical

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From: president@calmidwives.org <president@calmidwives.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:00 PM
To: Jones, Heather (2) <Heather.Jones2@McKesson.com>
Cc: 'Vickii Gervais' <vickii@homebirthmidwife.com>; Mills, Jason G <Jason.Mills@McKesson.com>; 'Webb, Kerrie@MBC' <Kerrie.Webb@mbc.ca.gov>; Diane Holzer <midwife@laughingcrows.net>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] for your information

Ms. Jones,

More follow up for you: I've heard from five California licensed midwives who were able to order and receive misoprostol from McKesson in the last 90 days.

Can you please give any timeframe for when your legal department is going to follow up with you?

World Health Organization recommends misoprostol for postpartum hemorrhage (an emergency situation, needing prompt attention and resolution):

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/75411/9789241548502_eng.pdf?sequence=1

In a joint statement by International Confederation of Midwives and International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics recommends misoprostol for both prevention and treatment of postpartum hemorrhage.

<https://www.who.int/pmnch/events/2006/figo2006statementeng.pdf>

The overriding benefit of misoprostol for midwives working in the community is it's temperature stability and long shelf life. Pitocin is still the preferred medication used to prevent and treat hemorrhage, however, Pitocin is not as temperature stable as misoprostol. Therefore, having misoprostol available can literally saves lives, prevent the need for transfusions and/or a difficult recovery from childbirth blood loss. Hemorrhage treatment and prevention also protects the mother's milk supply, contributing directly to the well-being of the newborn.

Additionally, as hospitals are increasingly impacted by COVID19, there will be delayed care for home to hospital transfers. When and if misoprostol is not obtainable by licensed midwives in California there will be greater risk of poor outcomes with delays in treatment and medical care.

Sincerely,
Rosanna

Rosanna Davis LM CPM
President
California Association of Licensed Midwives

CALMidwives.org

Treasurer
Californians for the Advancement of Midwifery
AdvancingMidwifery.org

650/964-2229 voice messages

From: Jones, Heather (2) <Heather.Jones2@McKesson.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 9:01 AM
To: president@calmidwives.org
Cc: 'Vickii Gervais' <vickii@homebirthmidwife.com>; Mills, Jason G <Jason.Mills@McKesson.com>;
'Webb, Kerrie@MBC' <Kerrie.Webb@mbc.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] for your information

Good Afternoon Ms. Davis,

Thank you for your letter and the follow up information. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate the opportunity to be able to resolve these issues. In this particular case, the regulations do not explicitly allow licensed midwives to purchase Misoprostol. As of right now, our understanding is that only medical doctors can purchase this drug. We are working with our legal department for guidance. Any additional insight or information you can provide on this issue, such as explicit permission from the Medical Board of California for Licensed Midwives to purchase Misoprostol, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Heather Jones

Specialist, Regulatory Affairs Associate | t 804.553.2054
McKesson Medical-Surgical

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From: president@calmidwives.org <president@calmidwives.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 11:48 AM
To: Jones, Heather (2) <Heather.Jones2@McKesson.com>
Cc: 'Vickii Gervais' <vickii@homebirthmidwife.com>; Mills, Jason G <Jason.Mills@McKesson.com>;
'Webb, Kerrie@MBC' <Kerrie.Webb@mbc.ca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] for your information

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Dear Ms. Jones,

I am following up to inform you that California licensed midwives are continuing to have critical delays for emergency medications ordered from McKesson. Such medications are necessary for the basic provision of midwifery care.

I have strongly urged the midwives to order from other suppliers because of the on-going problem. However, the midwives are very loyal to McKesson and therefore I've created the attached handout for them.

I thought you might appreciate some follow up information that the problem is on-going, despite your sincere efforts to remedy the situation.

I have cc'd California Medical Board staff attorney, Kerrie Webb.

Sincerely,
Rosanna

Rosanna Davis LM CPM
President
California Association of Licensed Midwives
CALMidwives.org

Treasurer
Californians for the Advancement of Midwifery
AdvancingMidwifery.org

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