STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1980 No. 1468

NURSES, MIDWIVES AND HEALTH VISITORS

The Midwives Rules Approval Instrument 1980

Made - - - -	*2nd October* 1980
Coming into Operation	*1st November* 1980

Whereas the Central Midwives Board have, in pursuance of their powers under section 4(1) of, and paragraph 7 of the First Schedule to, the Midwives Act 1951(a), made the rules which are set out in the Schedule to this instrument;

And whereas the Executive Committee of the General Medical Council have not made any representations with respect to the said rules;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, in exercise of powers conferred by section 30(1) of the Midwives Act 1951, and now vested in him(b), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby approves the said rules.

This instrument may be cited as the Midwives Rules Approval Instrument 1980, and shall come into operation on 1st November 1980.

2nd October 1980.

Patrick Jenkin,
Secretary of State for Social Services.

(a) 1951 c. 53.
(b) *See* Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968 (S.I. 1968/1699), Art. 2.

SCHEDULE

The Central Midwives Board in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 4 of, and paragraph 7 of the First Schedule to, the Midwives Act 1951, hereby make the following rules:—

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation

1. These rules may be cited as the Midwives Rules 1980.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:—

"the Act" means the Midwives Act 1951;

"approved lecturer" means a person who is for the time being approved by the Board as a lecturer in subjects included in Schedule II;

"approved teacher" means a midwife approved by the Board as responsible for the teaching of student midwives in an approved training school;

"approved teaching midwife" means a midwife approved by the Board to teach student midwives during their community training;

"approved training school" means a hospital or hospitals, together with a defined community area, which is approved by the Board for the training of student midwives;

"the Board" means the Central Midwives Board established by the Act;

"emergency" means any illness of the mother or baby or any abnormality becoming apparent in the mother or baby during pregnancy, labour or the post-natal period;

"local supervising authority" means the health authority to whom the midwife is required to give notice of her intention to practise in accordance with section 15 of the Act, within the current year;

"midwife" means a woman whose name is on the roll;

"mother and baby" means a woman and the child born to her and a reference to "mother and baby" shall be a reference to the mother during the period of her pregnancy and labour and to the mother and the child during the period from the birth of the child to the end of the post-natal period and "mother" and "baby" shall be construed accordingly.

"patient" in relation to a practising midwife means a mother or baby to whom she is rendering professional services as a midwife;

"post-natal period" means a period of not less than ten and not more than twenty-eight days after the end of labour, during which the continued attendance of a midwife on the mother and baby is requisite;

"practising midwife" means a midwife who attends professionally upon a woman during pregnancy, labour or the post-natal period, or who holds a post for which a midwifery qualification is essential;

"the roll" means the roll of midwives kept by the Board under section 2 of the Act;

"student midwife" means a person whose name is included in the register of student midwives kept by the Board under rule 20;

"supervisor of midwives" means a person appointed under section 17 of the Act by a local supervising authority to exercise supervision over midwives.

(2) Any reference in these rules to a numbered rule or numbered schedule is a reference to the rule or schedule, as the case may be, bearing that number in these rules.

Revocation and savings

3.—(1) The Midwives Rules 1955 to 1962(a) and The Midwives (Amendment) Rules 1974(b), are hereby revoked.

(2) (*a*) Such revocation shall not affect any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred, or anything duly done or suffered under those rules;

(*b*) Such revocation shall not affect any application made, certificate issued or decision given under the rules so revoked, and every such application, certificate or decision shall, so far as it could have been respectively made, issued or given under these rules have effect as if it has been so made, issued or given.

(3) Notwithstanding the revocation of the Midwives (Amendment) Rules 1974, the amendment made by paragraph 5 thereof to the Schedule to the Midwives (Disciplinary Committee) Rules 1969(c) shall continue to have the same effect as it had immediately before the coming into operation of the Midwives Rules Approval Instrument 1980.

PART II

RULES REGULATING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

Chairman and deputy chairman

4. A chairman and deputy chairman shall be elected by ballot at the first ordinary meeting of the Board in the month of April in each year, and shall hold office until the first ordinary meeting in the month of April in the year following.

Casual vacancies

5. Should the office of chairman or deputy chairman fall vacant during the year, it shall be filled by election at the next ordinary meeting of the Board, and the member so elected shall hold office for the remainder of the period for which his predecessor was elected.

Notice

6. Not less than four days notice of any meeting shall be given to each member of the Board directed to such address as he or she may from time to time furnish to the secretary, and accompanied by an agenda paper for the meeting.

Meetings

7. The Board shall meet in each month, unless otherwise decided at a previous meeting, on a day to be fixed to suit the convenience of the members of the Board, and at such other times as may be necessary. The chairman or, if the chairman shall be incapacitated or absent from the United Kingdom, the deputy chairman, may at any time convene a meeting of the Board, and the secretary shall convene a meeting if required to do so by any three members of the Board by writing under their hands specifying the nature of the business to be discussed.

Quorum

8. The quorum of a meeting of the Board shall be four members of the Board present in person.

Temporary chairman

9. In the event of the chairman and deputy chairman not being present at any meeting of the Board, the Board shall elect a chairman to preside at that meeting.

(a) S.I. 1955/120, 1959/162, 1960/1105, 1961/810, 1962/766.
(b) S.I. 1974/496.
(c) S.I. 1969/1440.

Agenda

10. No business which is not upon the agenda paper shall be discussed at any meeting of the Board (except routine business) unless the chairman of the meeting shall declare such business to be of an urgent nature, and shall be supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

Voting

11. Every question, the manner of voting on which is not otherwise specified in these rules, shall be decided on a show of hands by a majority of members present and voting, but any member may, except when members of the Board are sitting as the Disciplinary Committee, call for a division, in which case names for and against shall be taken down in writing and entered on the minutes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

Motions

12. Every motion or amendment shall be moved and seconded and shall (if the chairman of the meeting shall so require) be reduced to writing and handed to him and read before it is further discussed or put to the meeting.

Notices of motions

13. Every notice of motion shall be in writing, signed by the member giving the notice, and shall be given or sent to the secretary, who shall insert in the agenda paper of the next ordinary meeting of the Board all notices of motions which he may have received not less than one clear day prior to the day on which the agenda paper is sent out to members, and in the order in which they have been received by him.

Rescinding of resolution

14. No resolution of the Board shall be altered or rescinded at a subsequent meeting except upon a notice of motion of which a copy has been sent out to members by the secretary fourteen clear days before such meeting.

Chairman's decision

15. The chairman of the meeting shall decide upon any point of order or procedure and his decision shall be final.

Bills and claims

16. All bills and claims shall be examined by the secretary and laid by him before the appropriate committee of the Board who shall report them to the Board.

Cheques

17. All cheques for the payment of money shall be signed by two members of the Board and countersigned by the secretary or in his absence by the assistant secretary, except that if a list of payments to be made be approved and signed by two members of the Board, the total of such list may be transferred to a separate bank account and such payments shall then be made by cheques on that account signed only by the secretary, or in his absence, by the assistant secretary.

Financial statements

18. At such intervals as the Board may direct, the secretary shall present a statement in writing showing the income and expenditure for the current year and showing the existing balance, if any, to the credit of the Board.

PART III

RULES REGULATING TRAINING, EXAMINATIONS AND ADMISSION TO THE ROLL

Conditions for admission to the roll

19. An applicant shall be entitled to be issued with a midwife's certificate in the form set out in Schedule I and to be admitted to the roll if she complies with the following conditions:—

(*a*) she is over the age of twenty years;

(*b*) her name is on the register of student midwives kept by the Board under rule 20;

(*c*) she has completed a course of training prescribed in this part of the rules;

(*d*) she has passed the examination prescribed in rule 28;

(*e*) she is of good character; and

(*f*) she is in good health and not knowingly suffering from any defect which might preclude her from satisfactorily carrying out the duties of a midwife.

Conditions for admission to the register of student midwives

20. The Board shall keep a register of student midwives and, on application made to them by an approved training school, shall include the name of a woman on the register if she proves to the satisfaction of the Board, by the production of such evidence as they may reasonably require, that:—

(*a*) she has passed the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level in five subjects, including English Language and a science subject, or holds an equivalent educational qualification approved by the Board, or her name appears on the general or sick children's part of the register of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, or its equivalent in Scotland, Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland;

(*b*) she is over the age of seventeen years;

(*c*) she is of good character; and

(*d*) she is in good health and not knowlingly suffering from any defect which might preclude her from satisfactorily carrying out the duties of a midwife.

Application for inclusion in the register of student midwives

21. An application for inclusion in the register of student midwives shall be sent to the Board by the approved training school at which the applicant has been accepted for training.

Removal of a name from the register of student midwives

22.—(1) If at any time during the first six months of the training of a student midwife it appears to the persons responsible for the training that her standard of education is inadequate to enable her satisfactorily to complete midwifery training or that she is otherwise unsuited to continue training, an officer of the approved training school shall report the fact to the Board, and the Board after consideration of the report may, subject to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this rule, remove her name from the register of student midwives.

(2) If at any time it is reported to the Board by an officer of an approved training school:—

(*a*) that a student midwife has been guilty of behaviour which shows her to be unfit to become a certified midwife; or

(*b*) that owing to her health or any other reason her patients, if she became a certified midwife, would be at risk, the Board may, subject to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this rule, remove her name from the register of student midwives.

(3) The Board shall remove from the register of student midwives the name of any person who has not been admitted to the roll within the period of five years beginning with the date of registration as a student midwife, but may, on application made to them, re-register such person for any such period as they may think fit.

(4) The Board shall not remove the name of a student midwife from the register of student midwives under paragraph (1) or (2) of this rule, unless they have given her the opportunity of making representations to them in writing against such removal within 28 days of the notification in writing of the Board's proposal, and have considered any such representations.

Course of training

23. The course of training of a student midwife shall consist of:—

(*a*) theoretical, clinical and practical instruction in each of the subjects included in Schedule II;

(*b*) practical experience in the nursing and care of the mother and baby.

Length of training

24. The course of training shall be taken at an approved training school and, subject to the provisions of rule 25, shall extend over a period of three years.

Length of training for persons with nursing qualifications

25. In the case of a student midwife who is qualified in one of the ways described in column 1 of Schedule III, the course of training shall be adapted to take into account knowledge and experience acquired by her in becoming so qualified and the course so adapted shall extend over a period not less than the period specified in column 2 of Schedule III in respect of that qualification.

Approval of training schools

26.—(1) The Board may approve as a training school for student midwives any hospital or hospitals, together with a defined community area, which they consider to be properly organised, staffed and equipped to conduct the course of training for student midwives.

(2) The Board shall make it a condition of the giving of approval under paragraph (1) of this rule that any member of the Board, or any person authorised by the Board on their behalf, shall be given every reasonable facility to inspect training given at the school, the records kept in relation to training and the instruction given to the student midwives.

(3) The Board may make it a condition of the giving of approval under paragraph (1) of this rule that the number of student midwives being trained in the school at any one time shall not exceed the number determined in respect of that school by the Board, and the Board in making their determination shall have regard to the numbers and grades of staff in post and the resources available for training.

(4) The Board may at any time withdraw approval given under this rule, but before doing so they shall give to the persons responsible for the approved training school from which they propose to withdraw approval a statement in writing of the reason for such proposed withdrawal and the opportunity of making written representations to the Board against such withdrawal within 28 days of the notification of the Board's proposal, and shall consider any such representations made.

Approval of lecturers, teachers and teaching midwives

27. Approval of persons as lecturers, teachers and teaching midwives shall be at the discretion of the Board, who may at any time withdraw approval previously given, provided they have given a statement in writing of their reasons for such proposed withdrawal and the opportunity of making written representations to the Board against such withdrawal within 28 days of the notification of the Board's proposal, and shall consider any such repesentations made.

Examinations

28.—(1) The Board shall hold a qualifying examination for the purpose of testing the knowledge of the student midwife in subjects included in the course of training prescribed by these rules and to assess her ability to undertake the work of a practising midwife.

(2) The examination shall include written papers and an oral test.

Scale of remuneration of examiners

29. The scale of remuneration of examiners shall be such as may from time to time be recommended by the Board and approved by the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Certification of midwives certified in Scotland and Northern Ireland

30. Any person who is certified under the Midwives (Scotland) Act 1951(**a**), or the Nurses and Midwives Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(**b**) shall, on making application to the Board and paying such fee as may be determined by the Board with the approval of the Secretary of State for Social Services and on production of such evidence as the Board may require to the effect that she is so certified, be certified under the Act.

PART IV

REGULATING, SUPERVISING AND RESTRICTING WITHIN DUE LIMITS THE PRACTICE OF MIDWIVES

Form of notice of intention to practise

31. A midwife who intends to practise shall send to her local supervising authority, in compliance with section 15(1) of the Act, a notice in the form prescribed in Schedule IV and shall give a like notice every year thereafter that she continues to practise.

Restriction of treatment

32. A practising midwife shall not, except in an emergency, give any treatment which she has not been trained, either before or after enrolment, to give, or which is outside her sphere of practice.

Restriction on the use of drugs

33. A practising midwife shall not on her own responsibility administer any drug, including an analgesic, unless in the course of her training, whether before or after enrolment, she has been thoroughly instructed in its use and is familiar with its dosage and methods of administration or application.

Restriction on administration of inhalational analgesics

34.—(1) A practising midwife shall not, except on the instructions and in the presence of a registered medical practitioner, administer an inhalational analgesic to a patient unless:—

(*a*) she is satisfied from an examination of the patient by a registered medical practitioner during pregnancy that there is no contra-indication to the administration of the analgesic;

(*b*) she has, either before or after enrolment, received at a training school approved by the Board for the purpose, instruction in the essentials of obstetric analgesia.

(2) A practising midwife shall not administer an inhalational analgesic by the use of any type of apparatus unless:—

(*a*) that type of apparatus is for the time being approved by the Board as suitable for use by midwives; and

(*b*) where the Board so directs in relation to certain types of apparatus, the apparatus has been inspected and approved by or on behalf of the Board, within such period before the date of administration as the Board may determine, as fit for use by midwives and a certificate to that effect, signed on behalf of the Board, is in the possession of the body or person by whom the apparatus is held.

(**a**) 1951 c. 54. (**b**) 1970 c. 11 (N.I.).

Restriction on administration of anaesthetics

35. Unless special exemption is given by the Board to enable a particular hospital to investigate new methods, a practising midwife must not administer any anaesthetic otherwise than on the instructions and in the presence of a registered medical practitioner.

Duty to record administration of drugs

36. A practising midwife who administers or applies in any way any drug other than an aperient must make a proper record of the name and dose of the drug and the date, time and method of its administration or application.

Duty to carry out instructions of registered medical practitioner

37. In any case where a registered medical practitioner responsible for providing maternity services to a patient is exercising personal supervision and direction the following provisions shall apply:—

(*a*) where the practitioner is personally present, a practising midwife must carry out the instructions of the practitioner in relation to the care and treatment of the patient;

(*b*) where the practitioner is not present, a practising midwife must exercise her professional skill and judgment in accordance with these rules, and in doing so she must comply with the wishes of the practitioner save insofar as in so complying she would break any of these rules or act outside her sphere of practice.

Duty to keep records

38.—(1) A midwife must record her personal observations and details of the care of her patient during pregnancy, labour and the post-natal period, using for the purpose the form approved by the Board from time to time.

(2) In a hospital, nursing home or similar institution where a register or record is kept which incorporates the requirements prescribed in the approved form, it shall be the duty of the midwife in attendance on a patient to see that the appropriate records are completed.

Duty to preserve records

39. A midwife must not destroy or arrange for the destruction of official records made whilst she is in professional attendance on a case and required to be kept by these rules; if she finds it impossible or inconvenient to preserve them she must transfer them to the local supervising authority or to her employing authority, and details of the transfer must be duly recorded.

Emergency medical treatment

40. A practising midwife who in compliance with section 14 of the Act, has called in a registered medical practitioner to assist her in an emergency shall:—

(*a*) note the fact in her records;

(*b*) obtain the instructions or learn the wishes of the practitioner to enable her to comply with rule 37 and note such instructions or wishes in her records.

Duty to allow inspection

41. A practising midwife shall give to her supervisor of midwives every reasonable facility to inspect her methods of practice, her appliances, her personal register of cases and other records and such part of her residence as may be used for professional purposes.

Duty to be medically examined

42. A practising midwife shall, if the local supervising authority deem it necessary for preventing the spread of infection, allow herself to be medically examined.

Suspension from practice by a local supervising authority

43.—(1) In carrying out the provisions of section 17 of the Act, it shall be the duty of the local supervising authority to suspend a midwife from practice when necessary for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection, whether or not she has contravened any of the rules laid down by the Board.

(2) The local supervising authority may suspend from practice until the case has been decided:—

(*a*) a midwife against whom they have taken proceedings before a Court of Justice;

(*b*) a midwife against whom they have reported a case for consideration by the Board.

(3) A local supervising authority in discharging any duty imposed on them by section 17(1)(*c*) of the Act, or in exercising the power given it in paragraph (2) of this rule to suspend a midwife from practice shall:—

(*a*) notify the midwife concerned in writing of any decision to suspend her; and

(*b*) in the case of a suspension authorised by the said paragraph (2) forthwith report any such suspension and the grounds thereof to the Board.

Suspension from practice by the Board

44. The Board may suspend from practice until the case has been decided by the Disciplinary Committee or, in the case of an appeal, until the appeal has been decided, any midwife whose conduct is under investigation by the Penal Cases Committee on a charge of disobeying any of these rules, or of other misconduct.

PART V

REFRESHER COURSES

Duty to attend course

45.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this rule and to rule 48, every certified midwife who gives notice of intention to practise under section 15(1) of the Act shall, within the period of twelve months beginning with the date of such notice, attend a course of instruction approved by the Board for the purpose of this rule.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this rule shall not apply to a certified midwife:—

(*a*) to whom rule 46 applies, or

(*b*) who has within the period of five years immediately preceding the date of giving notice of intention to practise attended a course or passed an examination prescribed by the Board.

Courses for midwives who have not practised for six years or more

46. Subject to the provisions of rule 48, every certified midwife who gives notice of her intention to practise under section 15(1) of the Act and who has not practised as a midwife at any time during the period of six years immediately preceding the date of giving of such notice, although certified throughout such period, shall, within a period of three months beginning with that date, attend a course of practical and theoretical instruction approved by the Board for the purpose of this rule; and she shall not practise as a midwife without the consent of the local supervising authority before she has satisfactorily completed such a course.

Courses for supervisors of midwives

47. Every certified midwife employed as a supervisor of midwives shall within a period of six months beginning with the date of commencement of such employment attend an induction course approved by the Board for the purpose of this rule and shall thereafter so long as she continues to be so employed attend a course so approved at intervals of not more than five years.

Exemption from duty to attend a course

48. The Board, having regard to the qualifications and experience of a certified midwife who under rules 45 and 46, is due to attend a course of instruction, may exempt her from the requirement of attending.

PART VI

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY

Entitlement to the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery

49. The Board shall grant a diploma in advanced midwifery practice (in these rules called the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery) to a midwife who:—

(*a*) has satisfied the requirements as to experience specified in rule 50;

(*b*) has completed a course of instruction as specified in Schedule V to these rules for the time being approved by the Board; and

(*c*) has passed the examination prescribed in rule 51.

Conditions of attending a course of instruction

50. Before attending an approved course of instruction a midwife shall satisfy the Board that:—

(*a*) she is a midwife certified under the Act;

(*b*) she has completed two years full-time or part-time post-certificate midwifery experience within the three years preceding the course; and

(*c*) she has obtained a minimum of five passes at Ordinary Level in the General Certificate of Education to include English Language and one science subject; or

(*d*) she has such other qualifications of a comparable standard as the Board may approve.

Examination for the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery

51.—(1) The examination mentioned in rule 49(*c*) is the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery which shall consist of written papers and oral tests and shall be held at such times and in such places as the Board may determine.

(2) The fee for examination shall be such as shall be prescribed from time to time by the Board with the approval of the Secretary of State for Social Services.

PART VII

MIDWIFE TEACHERS DIPLOMA

Entitlement to Midwife Teachers Diploma

52. The Board shall grant a diploma in the teaching of midwifery (in these rules called the Midwife Teachers Diploma) to a midwife who:—

(*a*) has satisfied the requirements as to experience specified in rule 53;

(*b*) has obtained the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery granted under rule 49, or possesses an equivalent qualification approved by the Board;

(*c*) has satisfactorily completed a course of instruction in the theory and practice of teaching, which fulfills the requirements of Schedule VI and is for the time being approved by the Board; and

(*d*) has been awarded a certificate/diploma/degree in education by the institution conducting the course.

Conditions of attending a course of instruction

53. Before attending an approved course in the theory and practice of teaching a midwife shall satisfy the Board that:—

(*a*) she is a midwife certified under the Act;

(*b*) she has obtained the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery or such other qualification as may be approved by the Board, within the preceding five years; and

(*c*) she has spent at least one year in active midwifery practice approved by the Board immediately preceding acceptance for the course.

PART VIII

UNIFORM AND BADGE

Uniform

54. The uniform of a midwife shall consist of the items and accord with the particulars specified in section A of Schedule VII.

Badge

55.—(1) The badge of a midwife shall accord with particulars specified in section B of Schedule VII.

(2) The Board may refuse to issue a badge to any person who in their opinion is not entitled to wear it.

Purchase of uniform

56. A midwife shall not obtain any item of uniform except through a supplier authorised by the Board.

Permit to purchase uniform

57.—(1) A midwife shall not purchase any item of uniform unless she has been issued with a permit to purchase uniform by the Board.

(2) The Board may refuse to issue a uniform permit to any person who in their opinion is not entitled to wear uniform and a permit when issued shall remain the property of the Board and shall be returned to them on demand.

PART IX

TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Transitional provision in relation to rules 24 and 25

58.—(1) Until 1st September 1981, the period of training mentioned in rule 24 shall be two years.

(2) Until 1st September 1981, the minimum period of training applicable under rule 25 shall be twelve months in the case of a student midwife described in paragraph 1 or 2 of Schedule III and eighteen months in the case of a student midwife described in paragraph 3, 4 or 5 of that Schedule.

Rule 19

SCHEDULE I

CERTIFICATE OF ENROLMENT AS A MIDWIFE

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD

No..... Date.....

We hereby certify that.....having passed the Qualifing Examination of the Central Midwives Board and having otherwise complied with the rules made in pursuance of the Midwives Act 1951, is entitled by law to practise as a midwife in accordance with the provisions of the said Act and subject to the said rules.

..... Chairman

..... Secretary

Rule 23

SCHEDULE II

Subjects to be included in the course of training:—

Physiology and applied anatomy of the body with particular reference to circulatory, respiratory, alimentary, endocrine, central nervous system;

Physiology and anatomy of the female reproductive system; the male reproductive system; the healthy neonate;

Microbiology, its significance in obstetric and neonatal care;

Drugs, modes of administration, indication for use, action, effects, and interactions of those in general use in obstetrics and paediatrics; legislation affecting the supply and control of drugs;

Psychology of childbearing; social and environmental influences;

Preparation for parenthood; health education for families;

Nutritional requirements of the baby and of the infant; breast feeding and the preparation of artificial milk feeds.

Human relations and emotional reactions associated with childbirth affecting—the mother and baby; the family.

Pregnancy—physiology, signs, symptoms, diagnosis and management; assessment of maternal and fetal wellbeing; management of minor disorders; preparation for labour and parenthood; family planning counselling.

Labour—physiology, progress and management throughout all stages; assessment of maternal and fetal wellbeing; indications for and methods of induction and acceleration of labour; emotional support of parents; fostering of mother/baby relationships.

Puerperium—physiology, assessment of progress and management in hospital and home; education in infant care, and the initiation and management of breast feeding; family planning counselling; genetic counselling.

Infant—physiology of the newborn; methods of resuscitation; assessment and management of progress in the first month of life; neonatal nutrition and management of infant feeding with special reference to the preparation of artificial feeds and the care of the equipment; disorders, abnormalities and infections which may place an infant at risk, their causation, prevention and treatment.

Applied anatomy—Female reproductive system, including the bony pelvis and its contents; the pelvic floor and external genitalia; the male reproductive system; the urinary system; the breasts; development of the fertilised ovum; the fetus, placenta, membranes, liquor amnii and umbilical cord at term.

Drugs—those commonly used in midwifery and neonatal care; obstetric analgesia and anaesthesia; legislation and regulations governing the administration of drugs by midwives.

Health education—principles and methods of teaching health care; maintenance of physical and emotional wellbeing; psychosexual problems in relation to childbearing; preparation for childbirth and parenthood; family planning, sexually transmitted diseases.

Complications of pregnancy—medical and obstetrical conditions, their aetiology, recognition and treatment and the effect on mother or baby; termination of pregnancy—social and environmental problems.

Complications of labour—the recognition of the potentially abnormal, and abnormal conditions which may occur, their management and the midwife's duties.

Complications in the puerperium—the recognition of the potentially abnormal, and abnormal conditions which may occur, their management and the midwife's duties.

Social legislation/community health—the development of health and social services; services available to the mother and child provided by legislation and voluntary associations; health care teams—the relationships between the members of the teams and their responsibilities.

Records—statutory requirements; confidentiality.

Central Midwives Board—rules and regulations affecting training and practice.

Statistical indices—with special reference to maternal, fetal and infant mortality and morbidity.

Research—introduction to the methods used, interpretation and application of results in the maternity services.

Rule 25

SCHEDULE III

LENGTH OF TRAINING FOR PERSONS WITH NURSING QUALIFICATIONS

(1) Description of student midwife in respect of prior qualifications	(2) Length of training
1. An applicant whose name is included in the general part of the register kept by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, the register kept by the General Nursing Council for Scotland, the register kept by the Northern Ireland Council for Nurses and Midwives or that kept by an An Bord Altranais, Republic of Ireland.	18 months
2. An applicant whose name is included in the part of one of the above-mentioned registers containing the names of nurses trained in the nursing of sick children.	18 months
3. An applicant whose name is included in the part of one of the above-mentioned registers containing the names of nurses trained in the nursing and care of persons suffering from mental disorders, or in the nursing and training of the mentally subnormal.	2 years 6 months
4. An applicant whose name is entered upon the roll of nurses kept by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, the General Nursing Council for Scotland or the Northern Ireland Council for Nurses and Midwives.	2 years 6 months
5. An applicant whose name appears on the register of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists, and who has passed the final examination for the Orthopaedic Nursing Certificate.	2 years 6 months

Rule 31.

SCHEDULE IV

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PRACTISE

To the local supervising authority of .....

Section A.

I, ...
(Full names in capitals)

present address .....

permanent address (if different from above) .....

.....

holding a certificate of the Central Midwives Board, No. .....

dated....., 19....., hereby give you notice of my intention to practise as a midwife within your area for the year beginning..... 19.....

Section B.

(i) I last notified my intention to practise as a midwife on.....19....., to the local supervising authority of ....

.....

(ii) I attended a post-certificate course of instruction in accordance with rule *45/46 at .....

.....

from .....19..... to .....19.....

(iii) *(*a*) I am in private practice at .....

*(*b*) I am employed by ** .....

at .....

Dated this .....day of .....19.....

Signed .....State Certified Midwife.

Section C.

(Form of notice to be given within 48 hours of HAVING PRACTISED inside the area of any local supervising authority not already notified as above)

(i) I, ...No.....
(Full names in capitals)

residing at .....

and pursuing my calling at .....

having acted as a midwife at .....

within your area on the .....day of.....

19....., hereby give notice of my intention to practise.

(ii) *(*a*) I am in private practice at .....

*(*b*) I am employed by ** .....

at .....

Dated this .....day of .....19.....

Signed .....State Certified Midwife.

* Delete as appropriate.
** Here state the hospital, nursing home, health district or Midwifery Employment Agency, as the case may be, and state whether midwifery duties are full-time or part-time.

Rule 49

SCHEDULE V

Advanced Diploma in Midwifery

Course in Preparation for the Above Diploma

Aim

To provide a course of study to enable midwives working in the clinical and management fields and those wishing to proceed to teacher training to advance their knowledge and understanding of midwifery and related subjects.

Length of course

The course may be planned on a full-time or part-time basis for a minimum of 100 days × 5 hours each with at least 300 hours in formal sessions.

In part-time courses it would be expected that some block periods of study were arranged each term, i.e. one to two weeks.

Siting of course

The course should be based in an institution of further or higher education and/or in a midwifery training school. There would need to be an association between the educational institute and the midwifery training school in order to provide the expertise required in the presentation of the course.

Concept of course

The concept of the course should be one of integration of the main subjects of the theory and practice of midwifery and related subjects with the behavioural and biological sciences. An introduction to research methods should be included in order to promote understanding of developments in this field. There should be access to and effective use of comprehensive library facilities.

Course content

(*a*) *Midwifery and neonatal paediatrics*

The theory of professional midwifery practice should be studied in scope and depth consistent with the fact that the course is open to qualified midwives leading to the award of a post-certificate diploma.

(*b*) *The midwifery profession*

The aim should be to study the history and development of the midwifery and other related professions, legislation controlling practice of midwives and other issues relating to the midwifery profession.

(*c*) *Biological Sciences*

These should be related to midwifery and neonatal paediatrics.

(*d*) *Behavioural Sciences (Psychology, Sociology and Social Policy)*

These subjects should primarily be studied in relation to midwifery and associated health care issues but be developed to ensure a basic understanding of the behavioural sciences.

(i) *Psychology*

The aim should be to promote understanding of the psychological factors affecting childbirth;

(ii) *Sociology and social policy*

The aim should be to study the sociological perspectives in relation to the delivery and uptake of maternity care and related services.

Structure of the course

(*a*) The structure of the course throughout should be such as to encourage the individual student to develop self-learning techniques;

(*b*) Midwifery and neonatal paediatrics should be the major element of the course, and related biological sciences, behavioural sciences and midwifery professional development should be included.

Course tutor

A midwife teacher must be appointed as the course organiser who would work closely with other specialists in order to achieve the objectives of an integrated course.

Rule 52.

SCHEDULE VI

Midwife Teachers Diploma Course

Requirements for Approval of Courses of Teacher Training leading to the award of the Midwife Teachers Diploma

These courses may be taken with other professions or disciplines.

When approving courses consideration will be given to the total number of places required and the geographical situation of the course.

1. *Minimum number of midwife teacher students per course*

A minimum of eight midwives is desirable or 20 per cent of multidisciplinary course members whichever is the greater. The Board would be prepared to give special consideration to courses in which it was not possible to achieve the minimum number.

2. *Institutions offering the course*

All courses must be sited in, or in association with, an Institution of Higher Education.

3. *Length of course*

One full-time academic year or its equivalent.

4. *Course tutor*

A tutor holding the Midwife Teachers Diploma must be appointed to the course.

5. *Course content*

This should include:—

(i) principles and practice of teaching and learning;

(ii) related studies in education;

(iii) further study in depth of both new and fundamental areas of professional concern;

(iv) a minimum *equivalent* of six weeks teaching practice in midwifery training schools approved by the Board for that purpose.

It is expected that the curriculum would be designed according to modern educational theory and practice and whenever appropriate the course content applied to midwifery.

6. *In-course and final assessments*

These will be the responsibility of the institutions organising the teacher training courses. Plans should be included in course submissions for approval by the Board.

7. *Approval and inspection of courses*

Course programmes should be submitted to the Board for approval. An initial and annual visit will be made by the Board's Educational Supervisors to discuss the programme and facilities with the Educational Institution staff. The programme should be re-submitted after initial approval and then every three to five years unless significant alterations are made.

Rule 54.

SCHEDULE VII

Uniform for State Certified Midwives

A.

GENERAL

The basic colours of the uniform shall be grey and Stewart blue (B.C.C. No. 149).

The items of uniform shall be as follows:—

Service Cap; Beret; Brim Hat; Peaked Cap;
Overcoat; Raincoat with pile lining;
Car Coat; Suit worn with blouse or knitwear;
Working Dress; Unlined washable jacket;

Optional Items:

Blazer;
Slacks;
Blouse or knitwear jumper: white;
Tie: Stewart blue;
Scarf: Stewart blue or grey, or blue and grey striped;
Shoes worn with uniform shall be black.

Administrative dress:

The approved dress for administrative staff, including midwifery teachers, shall be grey, of style and material to their own choice.

B

PARTICULARS OF BADGE:

Device: the figure of Juno Lucina holding a newborn child in her right hand and a staff in the left, and encircled by initials S.C.M. on a dark blue background.

The badge shall be of metal or embroidered on fabric.

C.

Particulars of individual items of uniform may be obtained from the Board on request.

Given under the seal of the Central Midwives Board.

(L.S.)

N. M. Hickey,
Chairman.

The seal of the Central Midwives Board was hereunto affixed on 22nd September 1980.

R. J. Fenney,
Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Instrument.)

The Rules approved by this instrument supersede the Midwives Rules 1955 to 1962 and the Midwives (Amendment) Rules 1974, but not the Midwives (Disciplinary Committee) Rules 1969.

The principal changes made by the new rules are as follows:

(*a*) they specify minimum educational requirements for direct entrants and reduce from age 20 to age 17, the lower age limit for such entrants;

(*b*) they provide for longer training periods both for the direct entrant and for the entrant who is qualified as a registered general nurse;

(*c*) they include details of new courses for teachers of midwifery;

(*d*) they update certain procedural rules of the Central Midwives Board.

SI 1980/1468
ISBN 0-11-007468-8

