

**Medical Policy # 004****Policy Title:** Use of Certified Nurse Midwives**Date Written:** January 11, 2008**Date approved by Q&UM Committee:****Background:** Current Certificate of Coverage excludes “Services performed by a midwife.”**Purpose:** Interprets Certificate language in accordance with State Midwifery statutes, current Credentialing policy and until Certificate language can be amended.**Hayes Technology Assessment Rating:** N/A**Coverage Policy:** Certified Nurse Midwives are Advanced Practice Registered Nurses permitted to practice under Indiana Code 25-23-1-13.1 and other applicable state statutes. Current WHP Credentialing policy permits credentialing of CNMs in accordance with NCQA and URAC standards.

Certified Nurse Midwives may diagnose and manage uncomplicated pregnancy, recognize and refer complications of pregnancy, perform vaginal delivery, repair obstetrical lacerations and perform newborn assessment and resuscitation. CNMs must have a collaborative practice agreement with an Obstetrician or other licensed physician skilled in obstetrics.

Welborn Health Plans will cover the services of a state-licensed Certified Nurse Midwife when performed within the scope of applicable state law and in a hospital, ambulatory birthing facility or office setting.

Home delivery or attendance by a non-licensed midwife is not a covered benefit, however.