MIDWIVES COUNCIL
HONG KONG
香港助產士管理局

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To: All registered midwives

Dear Madam,

Implementation of the Post-registration Education in Midwifery Pilot Scheme on a Voluntary Basis

For many professions in Hong Kong and abroad, post-registration education has well accepted to be an effective means to improve the professional standard of practice. Hence, the Midwives Council of Hong Kong ("the Council") is going to implement the Post-registration Education in Midwifery ("PEM") pilot scheme on a voluntary basis, prior to the implementation of a mandatory PEM system.

Each practising certificate (PC) is normally valid for 3 years from 1 January of the first year to 31 December of the third year. A PEM cycle starts on 1 November (i.e. 2 months before issue of the PC) and ends on 31 October of the third year (i.e. 2 months before the PC expires). The first PEM cycle is from 1 November 2006 to 31 October 2009. Every registered midwife joining the pilot scheme should undergo PEM worth a minimum of 45 PEM points in the 3-year PEM cycle and submit a declaration form on compliance with the PEM requirement to the Central Registration Office, Department of Health, 17/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, when they apply for renewal of their practising certificates for 2010-2012 and after. Out of the 45 PEM points, at least 15 points must be obtained from direct midwifery-related activities. The continuing education activities for nurses and CNE points would be reciprocally recognized, where appropriate. Nevertheless, midwives who are newly registered and whose first ever practising certificates are valid for less than 3 years, they may be allowed a pro rata reduction in the number of PEM points.

You are invited to visit the Council's homepage at http://www.mwchk.org.hk for the list of accredited provider institutes and the "Manual for Post-registration Education in Midwifery Pilot Scheme" about the implementation details of the voluntary PEM pilot scheme. Please also note that the declaration form on compliance with the PEM requirement is attached at Appendix I to the Manual.

Your support and participation in the pilot scheme is most welcomed. Detailed particulars of the PEM system will be reviewed and, if necessary, fine-tuned in the light of the implementation of the pilot scheme, before the Council will consider the implementation of a mandatory PEM system. The Council will work out and inform all registered midwives the details of the mandatory PEM before its implementation.

For enquiries, please feel free to contact the Council Secretariat at 2527 8325 or 2527 8351.

Yours sincerely,

(CHENG Chung-kwong)
Secretary, Midwives Council of Hong Kong