Midwifery caseload

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# Midwifery caseload

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Glossary Item |
| Synonymous names: | Midwifery group practice; Midwifery continuity of carer |
| METEOR identifier: | 562448 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015 |
| Definition: | A model of maternity care where women have a primary midwife assigned to them throughout pregnancy, labour and birth and the postnatal period. Each midwife has an agreed number (caseload) of women per year and acts as a second or "back-up" midwife for women who have another midwife as their primary carer. Caseload midwives usually work on a 24-hour on-call basis (this may be organised within a group) and may be employed on an annualised salary. This is also known as a midwifery continuity of carer model of care and may be a private or public arrangement. Midwifery caseload may be managed within a midwifery group practice model where a small number of midwives join together in a group with each midwife having their own caseload and providing backup for the other midwives in the group practice. A key aspect of caseload midwifery practice that differentiates it from ‘team midwifery’ models is that women have a named midwife, caseload midwives have a self-managed workload that is outside of a traditional roster structure and provides a high level of continuity of a known carer across the continuum of maternity care. Note that this is different to team midwifery. |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit |
| Reference documents: | Homer C, Brodie P & Leap N. 2008. Getting started: what is midwifery continuity of care? in Midwifery Continuity of Care. Chatswood: Elsevier Australia, 1-24 |
| Relational attributes | |
| Metadata items which use this glossary item: | [Maternity model of care NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/559937)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  [Maternity model of care—midwifery caseload indicator](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/558580)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  [Maternity model of care—midwifery caseload indicator, yes/no code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/558582)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  [Maternity model of care—midwifery caseload size](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/558693)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  [Maternity model of care—midwifery caseload size, number N[NN]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/558695)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015 |