

## What does a midwife do?

### Information about the work of midwives

A midwife does far more than just deliver babies. Although a vital part of their role, assisting at the birth, is a small part of the overall job and responsibility.

Childbirth in the UK has never been safer. Much of this due to the professionalism and standards of the 21st century midwife.

Typically a midwife will work in partnership with women and their families to give support, care and advice during pregnancy, labour and the postnatal period.

In the UK Midwives work both alone and with a range of other health professionals that best meet the need of women and families they care for.

Midwives work in the community and in stand-alone birth centres as well as in hospitals.

Some midwives work within the NHS, others within private health care systems and some have their own businesses on a self-employed basis.

A definition of a midwife can be found at the [International Confederation of Midwives website](#).

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