

PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 368 of 1978

333.20719 Provision of quality perinatal care and information; availability of health care provider; personnel and equipment requirements.

Sec. 20719. (1) A freestanding birth center shall provide quality perinatal care that promotes physiologic birth, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (a) Respectful, supportive care during labor, for which the patient has provided consent.
- (b) Minimization of stress-inducing stimuli.
- (c) Freedom of movement.
- (d) Oral intake, as appropriate.
- (e) Availability of nonpharmacologic pain relief methods.
- (f) Regular and appropriate assessment of the patient and fetus throughout labor.

(2) The freestanding birth center shall provide a patient, at the inception of care, with all of the following information:

(a) A written description of the training, philosophy of practice, qualifications, and license or specialty certification of a health care provider who is employed by or under contract with the freestanding birth center.

(b) A written description of the freestanding birth center's patient practice policies.

(c) The complaint process for state and national credentialing organizations for a health care provider who is employed by or under contract with the freestanding birth center.

(3) The freestanding birth center shall ensure that a health care provider is present or available to the patient at all times when a patient is admitted to the freestanding birth center and until the patient and the newborn are determined to be clinically stable, based on criteria established by the freestanding birth center.

(4) The freestanding birth center shall ensure that a health care provider monitors the progress of a patient's labor and the condition of the patient and fetus or newborn at intervals established in the freestanding birth center's policies and procedures.

(5) Subject to this subsection, the freestanding birth center shall have the personnel and equipment necessary to ensure patient safety, meet the demands for services that are routinely provided in the freestanding birth center, provide coverage during periods of high demand or in the case of an emergency, and respond to patient health emergencies that may arise while a patient is receiving services in the freestanding birth center, including, but not limited to, basic life support, neonatal resuscitation, and the initial management of postpartum complications. The freestanding birth center shall ensure that at least 2 individuals are on the premises and immediately available during a delivery who are certified in basic life support from the American Heart Association or an equivalent organization as determined by the department and are certified in neonatal resuscitation from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Heart Association, or an equivalent organization, as determined by the department.

History: Add. 2024, Act 252, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Act 368