



MaternityWise International

Labor Doula Scope of Practice

Certified MWI Labor Doulas May:

- Educate families on nutrition and pre/postnatal-specific exercise
- Provide evidence-based information to assist families in making decisions about pregnancy, labor, birth and postpartum experiences.
- Support the birthing person physically and emotionally during the childbirth process
- Help families to understand medical terminology, with objective definitions
- Facilitate communication between the birthing person, the partner and all caregivers
- Help family to document physical assessments, including contraction pattern, position of baby, and vitals such as pulse, temperature and respirations
- Assist with puerperal and/or incision care
- Educate on newborn cord and circumcision care
- Provide resources, information and all viable options for family planning decision making
- Help family to find appropriate resources for special needs and challenges
- Attend prenatal, newborn, postnatal check-ups, or other health care provider visits, as requested
- Provide emotional support as they navigate feelings about the birth and new role as a parent (aka peer-to-peer counseling)

Certified MWI Labor Doulas May Not:

- Do any clinical tasks such as blood pressure reading, glucose level testing, etc.
- Interfere with any medical care provider as they provide care for client and/or baby
- Diagnose or treat/prescribe client or baby for any medical issues
- Speak for the client to clinical care providers
- Cause a family to feel pressured to make a certain decision based on doula's advice
- Care for clients' animals
- Drive clients' cars