



Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979

1979 CHAPTER 36

Miscellaneous provisions about midwifery

17 Attendance by unqualified persons at childbirth.

- (1) A person other than a registered midwife of a registered medical practitioner shall not attend a woman in childbirth.
- (2) Until the day appointed by the Secretary of State by an order under paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 4 to the ^{M1}Sex Discrimination Act 1975, a man who is a registered midwife shall not attend a woman in childbirth except in a place approved in writing by or on behalf of the Secretary of State.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply—
 - (a) where the attention is given in a case of sudden or urgent necessity; or
 - (b) in the case of a person who, while undergoing training with a view to becoming a medical practitioner or to becoming a midwife, attends a woman in childbirth as part of a course of practical instruction in midwifery recognised by the General Medical Council or one of the National Boards.
- (4) A person who contravenes subsection (1) or (2) shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than [^{F1}level 4 on the standard scale]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words substituted by virtue of (E.W.) [Criminal Justice Act 1982 \(c. 48, SIF 39:1\)](#), [s. 46](#), (S.) [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21, SIF 39:1\)](#), [s. 289G](#) and (N.I.) by [S.I. 1984/703](#), (N.I. 3), art. 5

Marginal Citations

- M1** [1975 c. 65](#).

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/02/1991. This version of this provision has been superseded.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979, Section 17.