

# Tips for Integrating Students into Client Care

Toronto Metropolitan University Midwifery Education Program Nov 2017

## Preparing Clients

We are a teaching practice and ask all of our clients to involve students in their care. We find that having a student involved enriches your experience . . .

I am a clinical teacher affiliated with Toronto Metropolitan University and I will have a student following me starting in January. Do you have any questions about including a student in your care?

The student who will be working with me is in a course called Normal Childbearing. The student's focus in this course is on learning to provide care in normal situations. This includes doing pre- and postnatal care, taking phone calls from clients, monitoring labours, catching babies and doing newborn exams. All of the care that the student provides will be under my careful supervision.

We appreciate your willingness to involve students. You may be aware that midwifery is growing fast and currently we do not have enough midwives in Ontario or Canada to meet the demand from parents who want midwifery care. Your support for students will ensure more families have access to midwifery.

I really enjoy working with a student. It is important to me to pass on my knowledge and skills to new midwives. It is great to have a student's fresh perspective and enthusiasm as part of the team.

Students in the midwifery program practice in simulated situations, with standardized patients and on each other to ensure they are ready to be involved in client care.

## Introducing the Student

This is Rae\*, the student who will be working with me this term. They will be following me in clinic, at births and during postpartum care. Thanks for including them!

This is Rae, the student you have been looking forward to meeting. We are planning to do your visit together today. Is that OK with you?

Are you comfortable with Rae joining us in your visit today? I will ask them to introduce themselves and where they are in the education program.

## Facilitating Involvement in Clinical Situations in Normal Childbearing

Are you comfortable with me explaining to Rae what I am doing, what I am feeling and why?

Are you comfortable with having Rae do [procedure] now that I have explained my findings?

Do you mind if Rae does [procedure] first while I explain what they should be looking for?

I am going to ask Rae to explain what they are finding as they do [procedure]. Is that OK with you?

Are you willing to have Rae do [procedure] after I do so that I can talk them through what to feel for?

Are you comfortable to have Rae do [procedure] first and then I will double check the findings?

Is it OK if Rae goes ahead and does [procedure]?

Are you comfortable if Rae starts the visit on their own today? I will join you shortly.

I am hoping it is OK with you if Rae and I catch your baby together with both of our hands on/with my hands ready to assist as needed?

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\*The name Rae is being used to refer to the student in this document