

## What is a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)?



Certified Nurse Midwives are educated in two disciplines: nursing and midwifery. They earn graduate degrees in midwifery from schools accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) and pass a national certification examination administered by the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB). CNMs provide a full range of primary health care services for women from adolescence beyond menopause to include primary care, gynecologic and family planning services, preconception care, care during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period, care of the normal newborn during the first 28 days of life, and treatment of male partners for sexually transmitted infections. They provide initial and ongoing comprehensive assessment, diagnosis and treatment. They conduct physical examinations; prescribe medications including controlled substances and contraceptive methods; admit, manage and discharge patients; order and interpret laboratory and diagnostic tests and order the use of medical devices. They work in collaboration with physicians to provide high standards of care in diverse settings such as ambulatory care clinics, private offices, community and public health systems, homes, hospitals and birth centers.