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This presentation covers

- The context nursing and midwifery in Ireland in the 1990s and background to the development of Advanced Midwife Practitioners (AMPs)
 - Midwifery education in Ireland developments over time
 - Maternity services a snapshot of services over decades and Ireland's National Maternity Strategy (2016) CREATING A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER
- Becoming an AMP the process
- Evaluation of the AMP role
- Policy
- Current situation
- Summary and conclusion



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This is important in understanding Ireland's experience in developing AMP roles and services



Context Nursing and Midwifery in Ireland

Government of Ireland (1998) Report of the Commission on Nursing: A blueprint for the future

In 1997, the Minister for Health established the Commission on Nursing. The terms of reference were to examine and report on the role of nurses in the health service including:

- the evolving role of nurses, reflecting their professional development and the overall management of services
- promotional opportunities and related difficulties
- structural and work changes appropriate for the effective and efficient discharge of that role
- the requirements placed on nurses, both in training and the delivery of services;
 segmentation of the grade
- training and educational requirements
- the role and function of An Bord Altranais generally, including, inter alia, education and professional development, regulation and protection of the citizen.

Following consultation, and exploration of all aspects of practice and education internationally,...



Context Nursing and Midwifery in Ireland

Government of Ireland (1998) Report of the Commission on Nursing: A blueprint for the future

The Commission recommended...

- That promotional opportunities should be open to nurses and midwives who wish to remain in clinical practice rather than following a management or education path.
 Currently, there is no career pathway for nurses wishing to advance their practice in clinical nursing and midwifery
- That the Minister provide for a three-step clinical career path in nursing and midwifery
 - registered nurse/midwife
 - clinical nurse or midwife specialist (CNS/CMS) equivalent to ward sister level
 - advanced nurse or midwife practitioner (ANP/AMP) equivalent to middle nursing and midwifery management level

The Commission also made...

 Several recommendations in relation to midwifery – recognition as a separate profession, changes to education and introducing direct entry programmes



Midwifery education in Ireland Advanced and specialist practice

Role description

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The ANP/AMP (Commission on Nursing 1998):

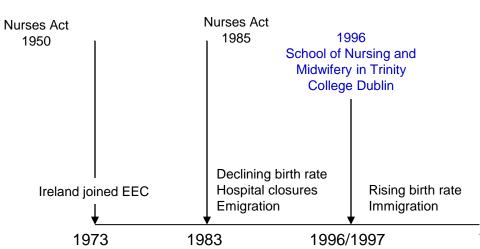
- exercises higher levels of judgement, discretion and decision making...
- has extensive experience
- has undertaken advanced education...at masters degree level involving theoretical content and substantial clinical experience;
- receives clients with undifferentiated and undiagnosed problems and initiates treatments...
- practises an advanced expanded nursing or midwifery role, makes professionally autonomous decisions taking sole responsibility...
- works independently...
- monitors and improves standards of care and develops practice,...carrying out audits, being involved in teaching patients and colleagues and conducting research

The CNS/CMS

- should be prepared beyond the level of a generalist
- have extensive experience and advanced expertise in the relevant specialist area
- have undertaken a formally recognised relevant specialist post-registration course of study, at the minimum level of university/college diploma



Timelines



1 year programme Several intakes per annum Employee status Ad hoc

lectures

2-year midwifery education Based in schools of midwifery (linked to hospitals) Students were employees: salaried 'care' givers 13 weeks theory Certificate award

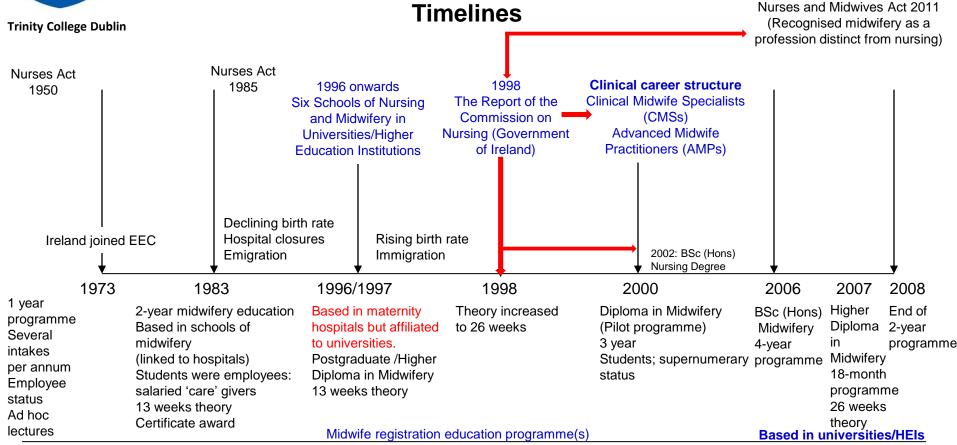
Based in maternity hospitals but affiliated to universities.

Postgraduate /Higher Diploma in Midwifery 13 weeks theory

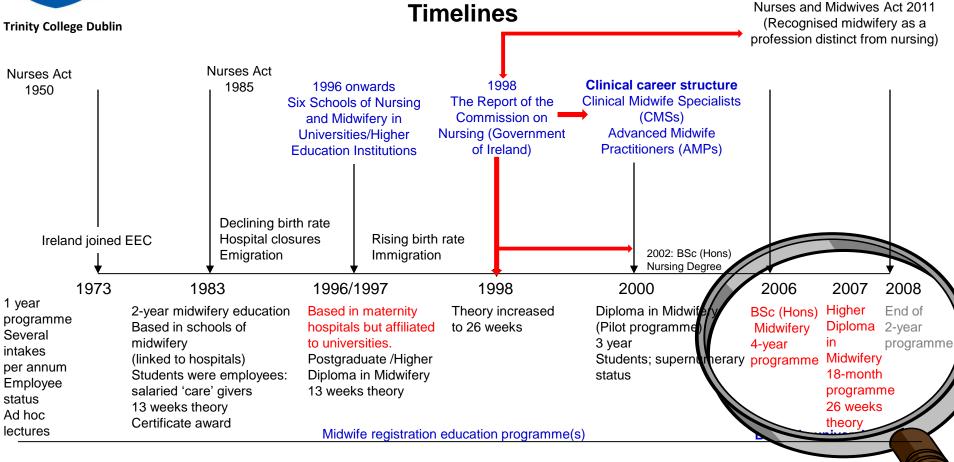
Midwife registration education programme(s)







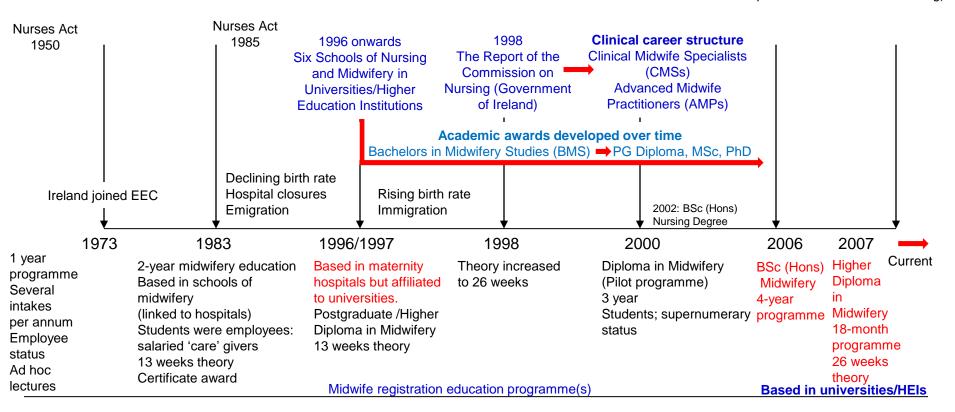




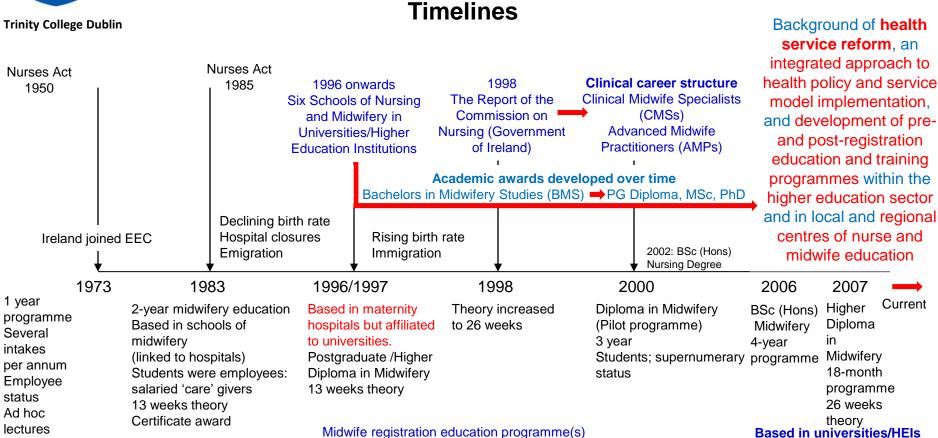


Timelines

Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 (Recognised midwifery as a profession distinct from nursing)









Maternity services in Ireland Developments over time

Some

statistics

Births in Republic of Ireland through the years

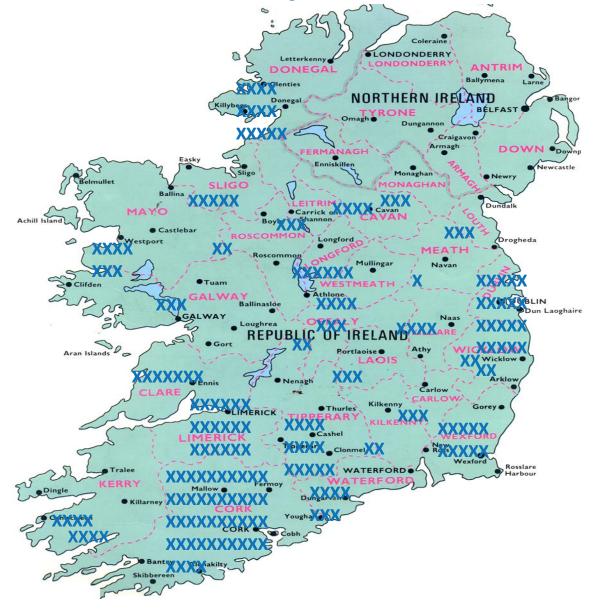


Year	Births	
1950	63,565	
1960	60,735	
1970	64,382	
1980	74,064	
1990	53,044	Decrease of >33% in 14
1991	52,718	years:
1992	51,089	1980-1994
1993	49,304	
1994	48,255	
1995	48,787	Increase of
1996	50,655	>33% in 14
2004	61,972	years: 1994-2009
2007	70,620	1004 2000
2008	75,065	
2009	76,012	Expected to be
2017	62,070	< 60,000 births per

annum in 2021



Maternity services and midwifery in Ireland Developments over time



Location of Places of Birth: Nursing Homes/Maternity Hospitals (X):
A snapshot from 1900-1970



Maternity services and midwifery in Ireland Developments over time



Location of Places of Birth:
Maternity
Hospitals:
1990s



Maternity services and midwifery in Ireland Current

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	Number of Units [#]	Total Births	Total Births %
Less than 999	1	981	1.6
1000-1999	10	15,889	25.7
2000-2999	2	4,968	8.0
3000-3999	1	3,059	4.9
4000-4999	1	4,424	7.1
7000-7999	1	7,387	11.9
8000 and Over	3	25,194	40.7
Total	19	61,902	100

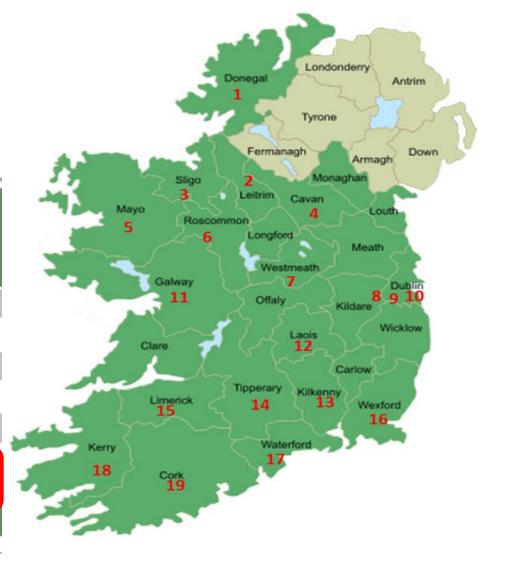


TABLE I1

Percentage Distribution of Maternities by Method of Delivery, Primiparous and Multiparous Women, 2008–

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2008-	ange 2016-
Primiparous											2017	2017
Spontaneous	43.5	42.7	42.7	41.2	40.5	40.2	39.0	38.4	36.5	-		2.2
Breech/forceps	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4		37.4%	0.0	0.0
Forceps	7.2	8.2	8.0	8.6	8.3	8.4	8.2	7.9	///7.9	0.6%	8.3	-1.3
Vacuum	21.4	21.2	21.0	21.0	20.5	20.3	20.8	21.0	21.0	7.8% 19.9%		-5.2
Caesarean section	27.3	27.3	27.6	28.6	30.3	30.7	31.6	32.3	₹3.9	34.3%	5.6	1.2
Other specified & combined	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.	0.0		0.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		
Multiparous												
Spontaneous	67.6	67.4	67.5	66.8	66.4	65.7	65.0	64.1	62.9	63.2	-6.5	7.5
Breech/forceps	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	
Forceps	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	-18.2	-
Vacuum extraction	6.0	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.2	4.9	-18.3	-5.
Caesarean section	24.8	25.4	25.4	26.4	26.7	27.8	28.3	29.6	30.6	30.6	23.4	0.0
Other specified & combined	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		

⁺ increasing complexity (e.g., diabetes mellitus (all types), BMI, cardiac disease, mental health and ill-health etc.)



Maternity services and midwifery in Ireland Current

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Public health care (free to all)

- Hospital care
- Shared care (hospital and/or midwife & GP)
- Obstetric-led care
- Midwives clinics (hospital and community) & midwife-led units
 (2)
- Self-employed community midwives (SECMs) (funded via the HSE)*

Private Health Care

- Obstetric-led care
- Self-employed (Private) community midwives (provide home birth)

Services available

- Midwife-led units (2)
- Out-reach antenatal clinics
- Midwives clinics (hospital and community)
- Community midwifery schemes
- DOMINO services
- Home birth schemes
- Early transfer home from hospital

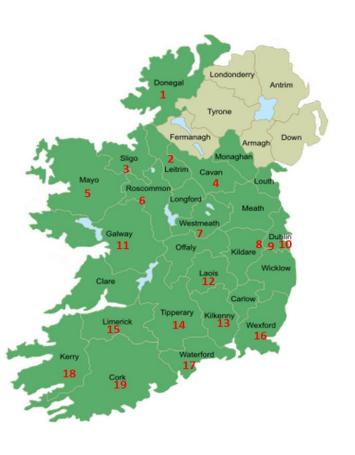
These services developed over time and were offered within some Health Service Executive Areas throughout Ireland

^{*}NB https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/3/maternity/new-home-birth-policies-and-procedures/



Maternity services in Ireland National Maternity Strategy (2016)

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Choice in model of care is largely dependent on location, with more choice available in the larger hospitals

(DoH (2016) Creating a Better Future Together. Chapter 1, Table 2, p17)

	DOMINO	Early Transfer Home	Home Births	Midwifery Led Units
Ireland East Hospital Group				
National Maternity Hospital	~	~	V	
St Luke's Hospital Kilkenny				
Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar				
Wexford General Hospital	~			
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group				
Coombe Women's & Infants University Hospital	~	~		
Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise ^b				
RCSI Hospital Group				
Rotunda Hospital	~	V		
Cavan General Hospital				~
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda				V
South/South West Hospital Group				
Cork University Maternity Hospital	~	V		
Kerry General Hospital ^c		~		
South Tipperary General Hospital				
University Hospital Waterford	~		V	
University of Limerick Hospital Group				
University Maternity Hospital Limerick				
West/North West Hospital Group				
University Hospital Galway		~		
Letterkenny General Hospital				
Mayo General Hospital				
Portiuncula Hospital General & Maternity Ballinasloe				
Sligo General Hospital				



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Choice in model of care is largely dependent on location, with more choice available in the larger hospitals

(DoH (2016) Creating a Better Future Together. Chapter 1, Table 2, p17)

Several areas have developed/are developing services since this was published

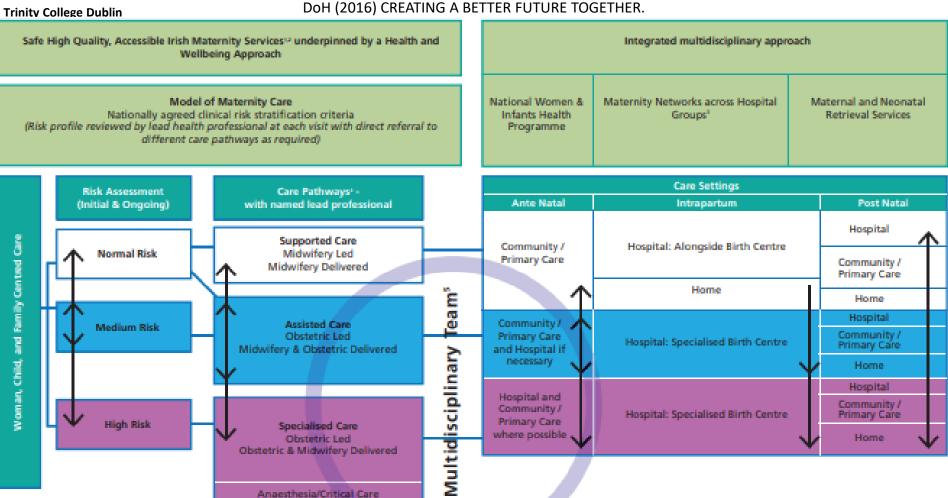
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Wexford General Hospital	~			
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group				
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Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise ^b				
RCSI Hospital Group				
Rotunda Hospital	~	~		
Cavan General Hospital				~
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda				~
South/South West Hospital Group				
Cork University Maternity Hospital	~	· ·		
Kerry General Hospital ^c		V		
South Tipperary General Hospital				
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University of Limerick Hospital Group				
University Maternity Hospital Limerick				
West/North West Hospital Group				
University Hospital Galway		· ·		
Letterkenny General Hospital				
Mayo General Hospital				
Portiuncula Hospital General & Maternity Ballinasloe				
Sligo General Hospital				



Maternity services in Ireland National Maternity Strategy (2016)

Model of care recommended

DoH (2016) CREATING A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER.

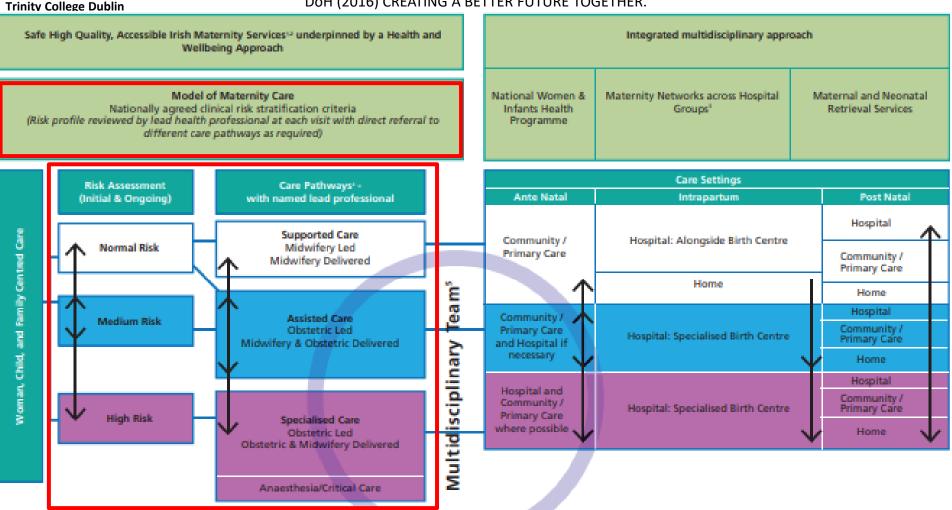




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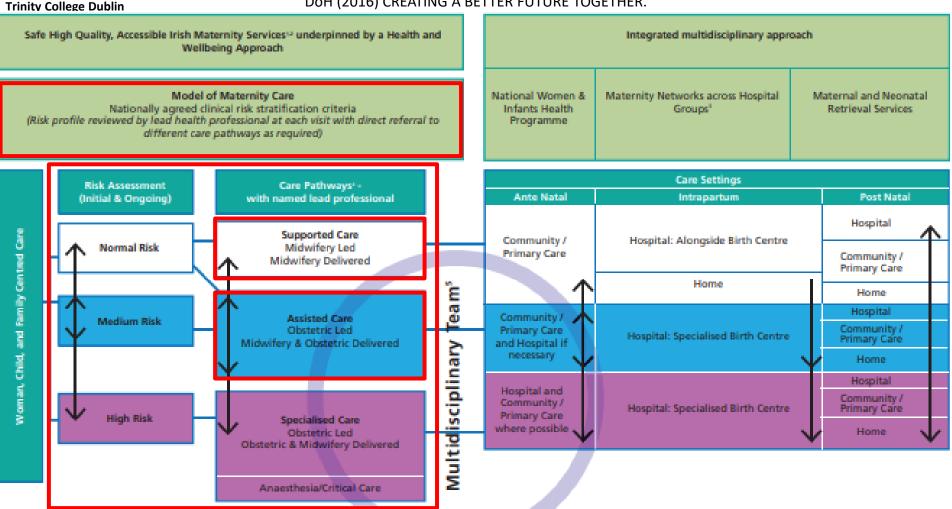




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Becoming an AMP Process

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Process for the development of AMP service

(https://healthservice.hse.ie/filelibrary/onmsd/nation al-guideline-for-development-of-advanced-nursing-ormidwifery-practitioner-services-2020.pdf)

Key points

Advanced midwife practitioner *services*

are developed as a direct response to population health needs and organisational requirements, as identified through local and national planning processes.

Figure 1: Process for the Development of Advanced Nursing or Midwifery Practitioner Services
Identification of need for advanced nursing or midwifery practitioner service
Initial scoping of the service with key stakeholders
Development of business case for funding approval
Recruitment of candidate ANP/AMP (using national agreed cANP/cAMP job description)
Development of the advanced nursing or midwifery practitioner service
cANP/cAMP preparation for registration as RANP/RAMP with NMBI
cANP/cAMP applies for registration as RANP/RAMP as per the criteria specified by NMBI
Registration as RANP/RAMP

Engagement in continuing clinical supervision, expansion of practice and

professional development to meet service needs



Becoming an AMP Process

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Key points

Advanced midwife practitioner services

are developed as a direct response to population health needs and organisational requirements, as identified through local and national planning processes.

Since 2019

Two pathways to registration





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- The ANP/AMP (Commission on Nursing 1998):
- exercises higher levels of judgement, discretion and decision making...
- has extensive experience
- has undertaken advanced education...at masters degree level involving theoretical content and substantial clinical experience;
- receives clients with undifferentiated and undiagnosed problems and initiates treatments...
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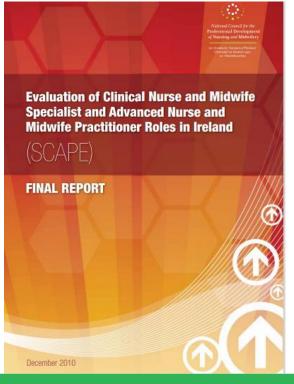
Table 2. Distribution of Nurses by Register 2016					
Division	Active				
Advanced Midwife Practitioner	8)			

https://assets.gov.ie/19260/f49c5ea1a19843b0aae2015 1aeaf694d.pdf

First AMP in midwifery 2011



Advanced Midwife Practitioners Evaluation of the AMP role



JAN

JOURNAL OF ADVANCED NURSING

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Differences between clinical specialist and advanced practitioner clinical practice, leadership, and research roles, responsibilities, and perceived outcomes (the SCAPE study)

Cecily Begley, Naomi Elliott, Joan Lalor, Imelda Coyne, Agnes Higgins & Catherine M. Comiskey

Results

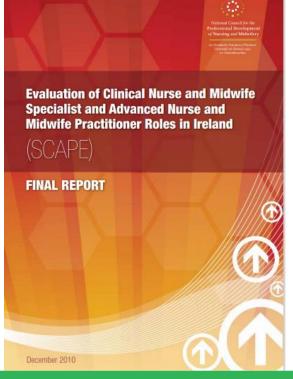
A clear difference was seen between
Clinical Specialist and Advanced
Practitioners, with advanced practice
roles providing improved service delivery,
greater clinical and professional
leadership, increased research, and a
clear governance and accreditation
structure.

Clinical Midwife Specialists were rated at a similar level to Advanced Nurse

Practitioners for certain aspects and rated more highly for 'continuity of care and carer'.



Advanced Midwife Practitioners Evaluation of the AMP role



Conclusion

Advanced Practitioners do give a
higher level of care, particularly at a
strategic level. Existing Clinical
Specialists should therefore be
encouraged to develop their skills and
education to achieve advanced
practice level and more specialist and
advanced practice posts should be
instituted.

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JOURNAL OF ADVANCED NURSING

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

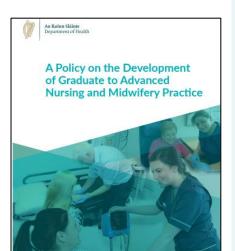
Differences between clinical specialist and advanced practitioner clinical practice, leadership, and research roles, responsibilities, and perceived outcomes (the SCAPE study)

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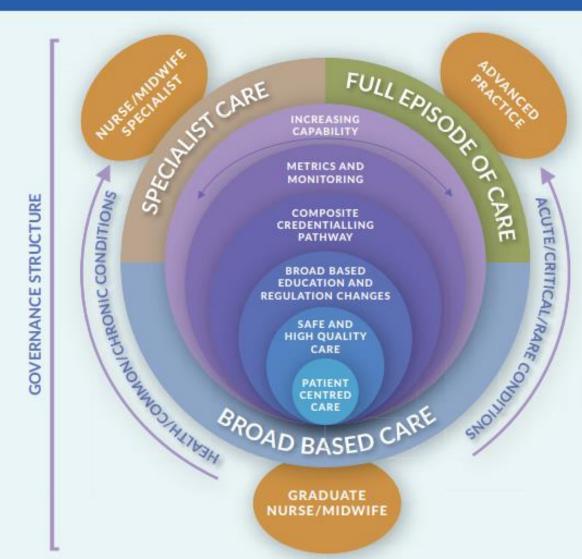
Advanced Midwife Practitioners Policy

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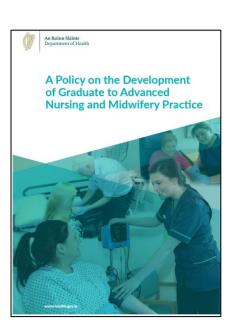
Figure 2. Model to Advanced Practice



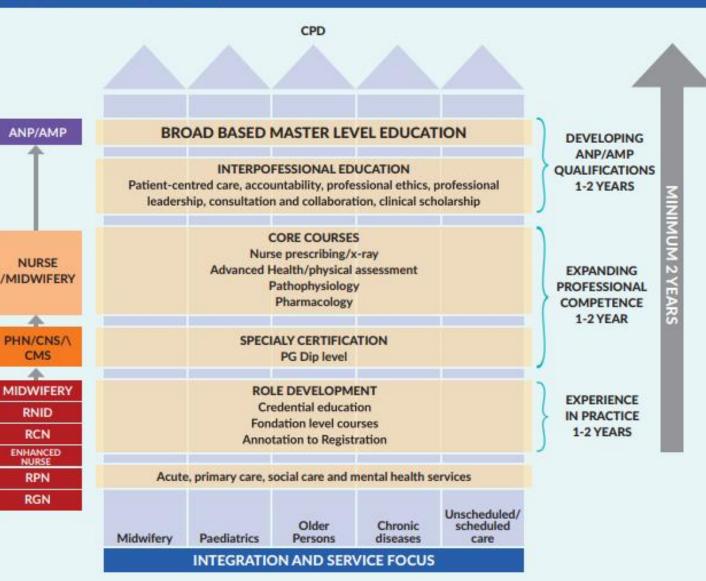


Advanced Midwife Practitioners Policy

Figure 7 - Education Pathway



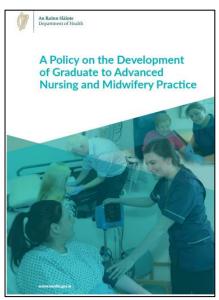
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Advanced Midwife Practitioners Policy

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Recommendation 1

Develop a critical mass of Advanced Practitioners utilising the capability model

Recommendation 2

Deploy nursing and midwifery resources to impact healthcare service needs

Recommendation 3

Streamline the education pathway for graduates to advanced nurse/midwife practitioners

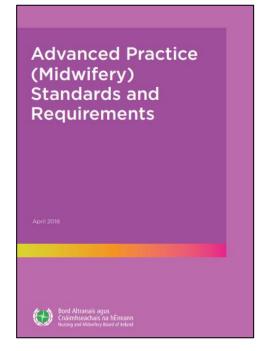
Recommendation 4

Evaluate Service impact



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- The Registered Advanced Midwife Practitioner (RAMP) (NMBI, 2018, p14)
- Promotes wellness, offers healthcare interventions and advocates healthy lifestyle choices for women, their families and the community in a wide variety of settings in collaboration with other healthcare professionals
- Manages a specific caseload of women and their babies, from admission to discharge, completing an episode of care at an advanced level
- As a lead healthcare professional uses advanced clinical knowledge and critical thinking skills to provide optimum care and improved clinical outcomes through higher levels of critical analysis, problem solving and senior clinical decision making
- In achieving specific competencies, the RAMP develops the capability to extend practice in line with patient and service needs and developments
- In developing capability, the journey of the RAMP moves from expertise in midwifery to incorporate additional expertise and thus extend their diagnostic and decision-making knowledge and skills where this is in the patient's interest (Department of Health, 2019).



https://www.nmbi.ie/NMBI/media/NMBI/Advanced-Practice-(Midwifery)-Standards-and-Requirements-2018-final 2.pdf



Advanced Midwife Practitioners Current situation

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Safe High Quality, Accessible Irish Maternity Services underpinned by a Health and Wellbeing Approach

Model of Maternity Care

Nationally agreed clinical risk stratification criteria (Risk profile reviewed by lead health professional at each visit with direct referral to different care pathways as required)

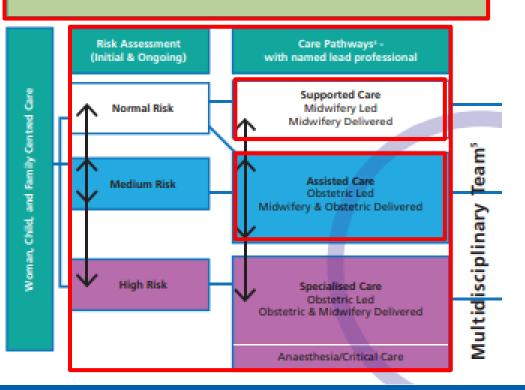


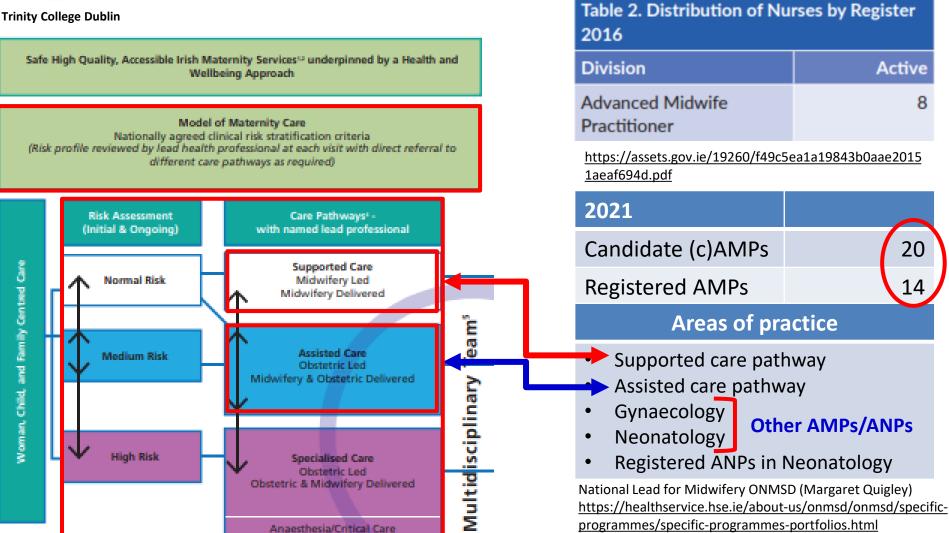
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2021	
Candidate (c)AMPs	20
Registered AMPs	14



Advanced Midwife Practitioners Current situation





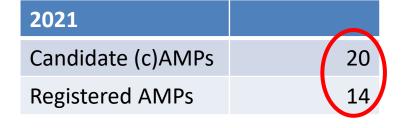
Advanced Midwife Practitioners Current situation

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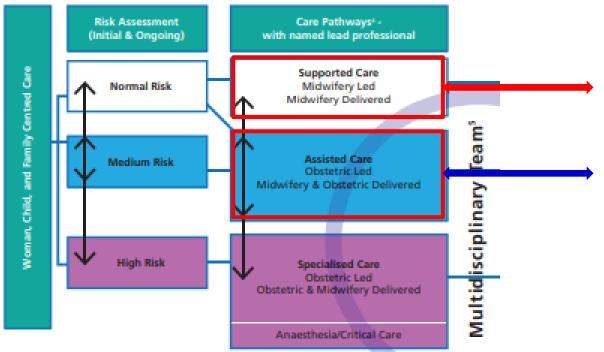
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Nationally agreed clinical risk stratification criteria (Risk profile reviewed by lead health professional at each visit with direct referral to different care pathways as required)



Examples of areas of practice

- Midwifery (supported care)
- Diabetes
- Emergency care
- Women's health
- Postnatal complications
- Perinatal Mental Health Urodynamics
- Hysteroscopy



BSc Nursing

HDip Midwifery MSc Advanced Practice

Prof Cert Prescribing Diploma
Obs U/S

15yrs clinical experience

Meet Berni, Advanced Midwife Practitioner (AMP)

Based in the Emergency Room

- Full episode of care
 - Assess
 - Scan
 - Diagnose
 - Treatment plan
 - Manage & prescribe
 - Admit (only 11% require)
 - Discharge

- Leadership
- Research
- Audit
- Role Model





Summary and conclusion

- **Ireland has come a long way in two decades** (in pre-registration and post-registration midwifery education, and changes in maternity services)
 - The number of AMPs (and services) are increasing
 - A developmental process embedded with services and education, and driven by policy
- AMPs make a difference



AMPs provide improved service delivery, greater clinical and professional leadership, increased research, and a clear governance and accreditation structure



Advanced Midwife Practitioners Resources (URLs included)

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Office of Nursing and Midwifery Services Director

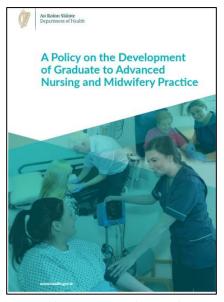
https://healthservice.hse.ie/about-us/onmsd/advanced-and-specialist-practice/



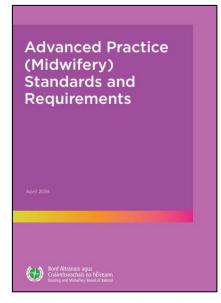
https://healthservice.hse.ie/filelibrary/onmsd/national-guideline-for-development-of-advanced-nursing-or-midwifery-practitioner-services-2020.pdf

Toolkit of resources (including service level agreements and job description

 $\frac{https://healthservice.hse.ie/about-us/onmsd/advanced-and-specialist-practice/toolkit-of-resources.html$



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https://www.nmbi.ie/NMBI/media/NMBI/Advanced-Practice-(Midwifery)-Standards-and-Requirements-2018-final 2.pdf



https://www.iaanmp.com/



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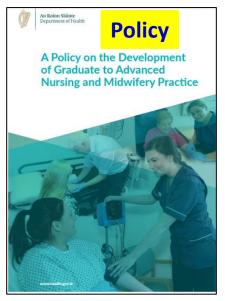
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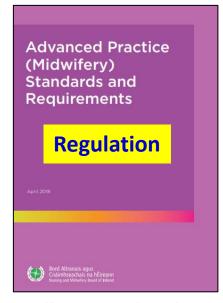
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The Irish Association of Advanced Nurse Midwife Practitioners

https://www.iaanmp.com/





Thank you

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