

MD Hospital Doula Policies



Maryland law now requires hospitals to have doula policies. Hospitals must adopt and provide evidence to the State that the hospital has:

(1) A doula policy that allows every birthing parent to have at least one doula present during birth in addition to authorized guests;

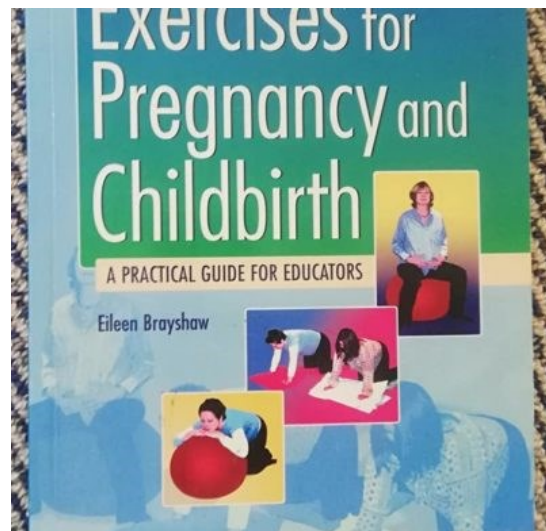
(2) An informed consent policy for significant medical intervention for the birthing parent; and

(3) A transfer acceptance policy that includes the hospital's process for receiving:

(i) A patient from a health care practitioner who provided services to a birthing parent in a home birth setting;

(ii) A birthing parent's or newborn's medical information from the home birth provider; and

(iii) A transfer from a licensed direct-entry midwife



State Law: MD Code, Health - General, § 19-2602, *Hospital policies; doulas; medical intervention; transfer*

Joint Commission Accreditation : Rights & Responsibilities of the Individual:

-The hospital respects the patient's rights to collaborate in decisions about care (RI.11.01.01)

-The hospital respects, protects and promotes patients rights. (RI.11.02.01)

-The hospital respects the patients rights to receive information in a manner he or she understands. (RI.12.01.01)

The hospital respects the patient's rights to participate in decisions about their care, treatment and services.