

# Test of Competence: Reading List

Midwifery

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## Core Midwifery Reading List

The following titles are essential reading for anyone entering the NMC Test of Competence:

- Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2019). *Standards of proficiency for midwives*.  
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/standards/standards-of-proficiency-for-midwives.pdf>
- Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2018). *The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and nursing associates*.  
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/>
- Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2020). *Test Specification for the Test of Competence*.  
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/registration/toc-21/toc-21-test-specification---midwifery.pdf>
- Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2020). *The Test of Competence 2021: Midwifery blueprint*.  
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/registration/toc-21/toc-21-blueprint---midwifery.pdf>
- WHO. (2009). *Guidelines on hand hygiene in health care*.  
[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44102/9789241597906\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44102/9789241597906_eng.pdf?sequence=1)
- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) (2022). *Green top guidelines* [Green-top Guidelines | RCOG](#)
- Resuscitation Council UK. (2021). *UK Statements and resources on COVID-19 (Coronavirus), CPR and Resuscitation*.  
<https://www.resus.org.uk/covid-19-resources>
- Resuscitation Council UK. (2021). *2021 Resuscitation Guidelines*.  
[2021 Resuscitation Guidelines | Resuscitation Council UK](#)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2017). *Intrapartum care for healthy women and babies*.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg190>
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2022). *Fetal Monitoring in Labour*  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng229>
- Marshall, J, & Raynor, M (2020). *Myles Textbook for Midwives*. Oxford: Elsevier Health Science.
- Johnson, R & Taylor W (2022) *Skills for midwifery practice (5th edition)*. Oxford.

## Recommended Websites

The following websites are recommended reading for anyone entering the NMC Test of Competence:

- [www.dh.gov.uk](http://www.dh.gov.uk)
- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/>
- <https://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/recruit/employer-led-recruitment/international-recruitment/uk-code-of-practice-for-international-recruitment/recruitment-agency-list/northern-ireland>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>
- <https://www.nmc.org.uk/>
- <https://www.nice.org.uk/>
- <https://www.rcm.org.uk/>

## Reading for Midwifery OSCEs

The following resources are the evidential base used for the assessment of the Test of Competence skills stations and should be referred to when preparing for your OSCE.

### **Midwifery Skills**

#### **Birth and SEN, and Newborn infant physical examination**

Free to access:

- Public Health England. (2020). *Newborn and infant physical examination (NIPE) screening programme handbook*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/newborn-and-infant-physical-examination-programme-handbook/newborn-and-infant-physical-examination-screening-programme-handbook>
- Public Health England. (2021). *Newborn and infant physical examination programme standards valid for data collected from 1 April 2018*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/newborn-and-infant-physical-examination-screening-standards/newborn-and-infant-physical-examination-programme-standards-valid-for-data-collected-from-1-april-2018>

Available with journal access:

- Lomax, A. (2015). *Examination of the Newborn: An Evidence-Based Guide*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. Accessible via ProQuest Ebook Central.  
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/nottingham/detail.action?docID=4039781>.

#### **Postnatal check**

Free to access:

- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2015). *Postnatal care up to 8 weeks after birth*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg37/resources/postnatal-care-up-to-8-weeks-after-birth-pdf-975391596997>

#### **Postnatal sepsis**

Free to access:

- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2017). *Sepsis: recognition, diagnosis and early management*. Retrieved December 2021.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng51>
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2021). *Postnatal care*. Retrieved December 2021.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng194>
- The Sepsis Trust. Retrieved December 2021.  
<https://sepsistrust.org/>

Available for purchase:

- Boyle, M and Bothamley, J (2018). *Critical Care Assessment by Midwives*. London: Routledge.
- Marshall, J, & Raynor, M (2020). *Myles Textbook for Midwives*. Oxford: Elsevier Health Science.

### **Postpartum haemorrhage**

Free to access:

- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2017). *Intrapartum care for healthy women and babies*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg190/resources/intrapartum-care-for-healthy-women-and-babies-pdf-35109866447557>
- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. (2016). *Green-top guideline No 52: Prevention and management of postpartum haemorrhage*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/1471-0528.14178>

### **Shoulder dystocia**

Free to access:

- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (2012) *Green-top guidance No 42: Shoulder Dystocia*. Retrieved February 2021.  
[https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg\\_42.pdf](https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg_42.pdf)

### **Unexpected breech birth**

Available for purchase:

- Boyle, M (ed.), (2016). *Emergencies Around Childbirth: A Handbook for Midwives*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, London: Routledge.
- Marshall, J, & Raynor, M (2020). *Myles Textbook for Midwives*. Oxford: Elsevier Health Science.

### **Evidence-Based Practice**

Free to access:

- Royal College of Midwives. (2018). *High Quality Midwifery Care*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/2354/high-quality-midwifery-care.pdf>
- Royal College of Midwives. (2016). *The RCM standards for midwifery care in the UK*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/2283/rcm-standards-midwifery-services-uk.pdf>

Available for purchase:

Aveyard, H. (2014). *Doing a literature review in health and social care: a practical guide*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

## **Professional Values**

Free to access:

- Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2018). *The Code: Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and nursing associates*.  
<https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/>
- Human Rights Act. (1998).  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/1>
- NHS England. (2016). *Better Births – improving outcomes of maternity services in England*.  
[www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/national-maternity-review-report.pdf](http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/national-maternity-review-report.pdf).
- NHS England. (2021). *The NHS Constitution for England*.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england/the-nhs-constitution-for-england>
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2015). *Postnatal care NICE quality standard [QS37]*.  
<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs37>.
- Royal College of Midwives. (2018). *High Quality Midwifery Care*.  
<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/2354/high-quality-midwifery-care.pdf>
- Royal College of Midwives. (2016). *The RCM standards for midwifery care in the UK*.  
<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/2283/rcm-standards-midwifery-services-uk.pdf>

## Supplementary Midwifery Reading List

The following texts and websites contain useful (but not essential) background reading for those entering the NMC Test of Competence:

Free to access:

- National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit (NPEU). Mothers and babies: Reducing risk through Audits and Confidential Enquiries across the UK website. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk>
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2014). *Infection prevention and control*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs61/resources/infection-prevention-and-control-pdf-2098782603205>
- Royal College of Midwives. (2018). *Blue top guidance No. 1: Midwifery care in labour for all women in all settings*. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/2539/professionals-blue-top-guidance.pdf>
- Royal Free Hospital (2009) *MEOWS Guidance in Maternity*  
([https://www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk/assets/\\_managed/editor/file/guidelines/meows/royal%20free%20meows%20guideli](https://www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk/assets/_managed/editor/file/guidelines/meows/royal%20free%20meows%20guideli)  
[ne%20-%20mcglennan\\_.pdf](ne%20-%20mcglennan_.pdf))
- The Sepsis Trust website. Retrieved February 2021.  
<https://sepsistrust.org/>