



MIDWIFERY DATA: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Acknowledgement

What is it?

Acknowledgement is the final step of data submission to the BORN Information System (BIS), for each month of data entered under a midwifery practice group.

- Midwifery data is complete and ready for acknowledgement once all the 'Midwifery - Incomplete Reports' are run, and all incomplete records flagged in these reports are corrected and submitted.
- Acknowledgement signals to BORN that the practice group is confident that the data submitted is complete for that month of client discharges/billable courses of care.

Who does it?

Practice administrators are the people who most commonly run Administrative Reports (Data Quality Management Reports) on a regular basis. They fix and complete records themselves, or flag charts for midwives to complete, and then acknowledge the month of data in the BIS for the practice.

When is it done?

Some practice administrators do this work monthly, some do it quarterly. Finding a good work flow for your practice group is key to successful data completion and acknowledgement.

How is it done?

Practice administrators follow these steps (see [Quick Guide to Data Quality Management](#)):

- Run all three data quality reports in the BIS to identify incomplete records:
 - Midwifery - Incomplete Infant Records Report
 - Midwifery - Incomplete Maternal Records Report
 - Maternal-Infant Cross Encounter Discrepancy Report
- Ensure incomplete records flagged in these reports are fixed, completed and submitted.
- Contact [BORN Regional Coordinators](#) for assistance via **BIS Messaging** if it is unclear what requires fixing. BIS Messaging is a secure way to communicate in the BIS, protecting the privacy of client personal health information.
- Click on 'Acknowledgement' in the upper banner of the BIS, select the month/year of data to be acknowledged, check Acknowledge, and click Submit. A green check mark signals that the month of data is complete, and then the data is added to provincial midwifery numbers.



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Why is it important?

Only acknowledged data are included in the provincial dataset and comparators in clinical reports. If a practice does not acknowledge their data, none of the client billable courses of care for those months are included in the provincial dataset and comparators.

- Acknowledged data enables midwives and practice groups to compare their own individual care, and practice group care, to accurate and complete provincial midwifery comparators.
- Acknowledged data also enables midwifery stakeholders such as the AOM, MEP, CMO and OMP to see accurate and complete midwifery data in the clinical standard reports.

What are some examples of how midwifery data is used?

- The Association of Ontario Midwives can use the provincial data to present midwifery outcomes, and advocate for midwifery initiatives in Ontario.
- The Midwifery Education Program can use midwifery data in BORN for student placement planning.
- The Ontario Midwifery Program (OMP) can see provincial midwifery data for healthcare planning. (Note: data viewed by provincial stakeholders is provincial data, not per individual midwife or practice group, and does not contain client personal health information).
- Individual midwives can access their own clinical reports showing their care provided to clients, compared to provincial midwifery comparators. Complete provincial comparators increase the meaningfulness of these comparisons **<see Clinical Report Access for Individual Midwives report>**

What happens if midwifery data is not acknowledged?

If data is not acknowledged, it is not included in analysis. Each year, a large percentage of midwifery births are not available for provincial comparators in the clinical standard reports, because many months of data are not acknowledged by practice groups in the BIS.

- When data is not acknowledged, these midwifery courses of care are not added to the provincial midwifery aggregate data set, making it hard to analyse and advocate for midwifery support.
- Without complete, acknowledged data, the numbers and therefore rates presented in reports developed for provincial stakeholders do not provide a provincially representative view of midwifery care, and therefore are limited in their ability to facilitate or improve care.



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BORN support for midwifery data:

- **BORN Regional Coordinators** transitioned to mixed-organization portfolios, to include both midwifery practice groups and hospitals. This change has enhanced available BORN support to midwifery practice groups with data entry, quality, acknowledgement and report use.
- BORN enabled access to individual midwifery clinical reports last spring, so midwives can run reports comparing the care they provide with provincial midwifery comparators.

In Summary, acknowledged midwifery data...

- Is included in the provincial data set and comparators, allowing for accurate representation of midwifery care.
- Allows midwives to compare their own care to accurate and complete provincial comparators.
- Enables provincial stakeholders to access accurate and complete clinical standard reports.