

Spokane Midwives Definition of Low-Risk Maternal Client

The definition of a low-risk maternity client is the absence of any high-risk conditions that would risk you out of maternity care at Spokane Midwives. The definition of wellness is the absence of disease. A low-risk maternity client is a healthy, well nourished woman absent of any high-risk conditions. Risk screening is an ongoing process that continues throughout the entire course of care. Specific high-risk categories include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Heart disease/congenital heart defects/chronic hypertension
2. Renal disease
3. Severe psychiatric disorders
4. Seizure disorders
5. Alcohol or drug abuse
6. Cigarette smoking > 1 pack/day and no commitment to cutback/quit
7. Collagen-vascular diseases
8. Endocrine disorders
9. Chronic pulmonary disease (emphysema, TB, severe asthma)
10. Bleeding disorders/hemolytic disease/hemoglobinopathy
11. Active gastrointestinal disease (peptic ulcer, pancreatitis, gallbladder disease)
12. Hepatic disorders
13. Inadequate prenatal care
14. Isoimmunization
15. Current cancer
16. Previous classical cesarean section/uterine surgery
17. Congenital anomalies which may affect childbirth
18. Severe maternal malnutrition
19. Inability of client and midwife to come to an agreement regarding plan of care
20. Necessary support network for care of mother/infant not available or not functioning in a healthy manner.
21. Other significant deviations from normal

Clients Ineligible for Acceptance into Practice at Spokane Midwives

Clients who fall into the category of high-risk are ineligible for acceptance into the practice at Spokane Midwives. Specifically, this includes all of the above high-risk categories. We accept clients who have had a vaginal birth after cesarean section, multiple gestation, and planned breech births, but they are only eligible for delivery at home. A client with any of those conditions cannot deliver at the birth center.