

Thus, it is essential for each midwife to engage in professional development after graduation in order to acquire new knowledge and competence to practise effectively in an ever-changing healthcare environment. Continuing professional and personal development is required in order to maintain and enhance professional standards and to provide quality, competent, and safe patient care (Price & Reichert, 2017). Midwives are expected to assess their learning needs, set learning objectives that can be achieved utilising the appropriate resources, apply the best learning strategies, and evaluate outcomes of the acquired learning in a continuous process.

**Standard 1: The midwife shall assume responsibility for their own professional self-development through lifelong learning to ensure continued competence and performance improvement.**

#### **Competencies**

- Undertakes regular self-assessment and reviews own practice through reflection, peer review, critical examination, and evaluation.
- Identifies the need for and takes responsibility for updating knowledge and skills for practice.
- Actively engages in ongoing professional development and performance improvement for self and others.
- Achieves excellence in high-technology approaches to care through ongoing education.
- Recognizes advances in practice management and evaluating services and makes due effort to ensure that these are implemented into practice.
- Maintains an accurate record of learning and professional development activities.
- Promotes the profession of midwifery, including participation in professional organizations at the local and national levels.