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Midwives in the world.

ABSTRACT

The midwife is the health professional for a woman's life in sexual and reproductive field. The professional training and the laws that regulate this profession are different among the several States, because the social-cultural influence sets the social role. Not in all countries the midwife is recognized as an autonomous and responsible figure of her professional activity and she often attends only to maternal and baby health (pregnancy and delivery). It would be desirable to have a share of the training standards and of areas of practice relating to sexual and reproductive health to offer to all women of the world professional midwives responsible and autonomous to meet their specific health needs.