



Management of Second Stage of Labour in Low Risk Women at Term - Endorsed for Use in Clinical Practice Policy

1. Purpose

The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) endorses relevant policies from other WA Health Service Providers and organisations external to the WA health system for use in clinical practice. This endorsed policy document is from Women and Newborn Health Service (WNHS), King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH).

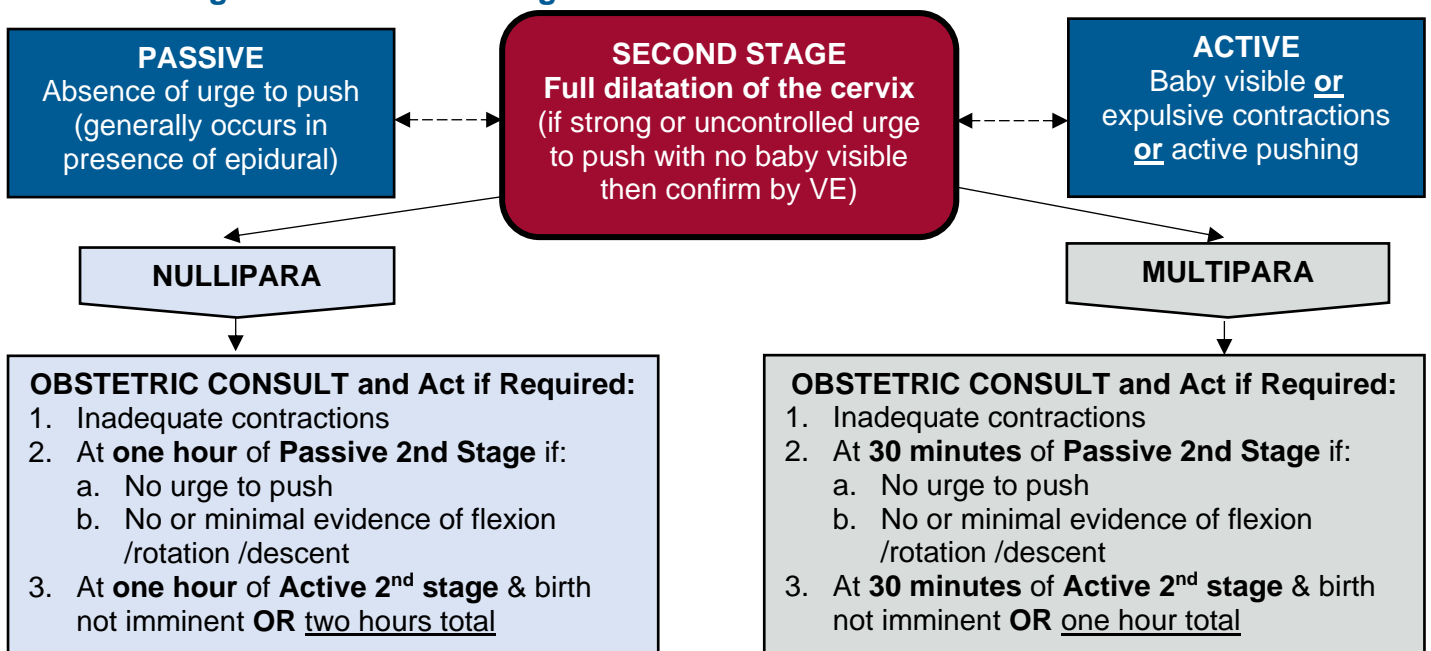
2. Policy

A flowchart for the management of second stage of labour in low risk pregnant women has been developed for WACHS context of practice. The variation relates specifically to the:

- WNHS [Clinical Practice Guideline Second stage of labour and Birth](#)
- WNHS [Clinical Practice Guideline Second stage of labour - management of delay](#)

Care is person-centred and includes informed choice, consent, privacy, respectful communication, and contemporaneous documentation.

2.1 Management of second stage of labour in WACHS



LEVEL 2 Service
Obstetric Consult required and arrange transfer at one hour total of passive or active second stage with no urge to push or minimal evidence of flexion /rotation / descent

CTG Monitoring Required

- Any FHR abnormality on intermittent auscultation
- Apply at two hours total (Nullipara) and one hour total (Multipara)
- Any abnormal CTG requires medical review and consideration of expedition of birth (it is not normal for a CTG to be abnormal in 2nd stage)

3. Roles and Responsibilities

WACHS Safety and Quality Executive Committee are responsible for acting as the principal endorsement authority for external organisations' clinical policy documents.

WACHS Area and Regional Medical, Nurse and Midwife Directors are responsible for participating in the review for appropriateness of external organisations' clinical policy and guideline documents for use by clinicians within the WACHS.

All staff are required to work within their scope of practice and policies and guidelines to make sure that WACHS is a safe, equitable and positive place to be.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Refer to WACHS Maternity and Newborn Care Resources Endorsed for Use in Clinical Practice Policy.

5. Compliance

This policy is a mandatory requirement under the [Health Services Act 2016](#).

Failure to comply with this policy may constitute a breach of the WA Health Code of Conduct (Code). The Code is part of the [Integrity Policy Framework](#) issued pursuant to Section 26 of the [Health Services Act 2016](#) and is binding on all WACHS staff which for this purpose includes trainees, students, volunteers, researchers, contractors for service (including all visiting health professionals and agency staff) and persons delivering training or education within WACHS.

EUCP policies are designed to provide staff with evidence-based recommendations to support appropriate actions in specific settings and circumstances. In the clinical context, where a patient's management should vary from an endorsed WACHS policy, this variation and the clinical opinion as to reasons for variation must be documented in accordance with the [Documentation Clinical Practice Standard](#).

6. References

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (2020). Decision making framework for Nurses and Decision making framework for Midwives. [Internet]. Available from: [Decision making framework for Nurses and Decision making framework for Midwives](#)

7. Document Summary

Coverage	WACHS wide
Audience	Medical officers, nurses and midwives providing maternity and newborn care
Related WACHS Policy Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maternity and Newborn Care Guidelines - Endorsed for Use in Clinical Practice Policy
Other Related Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WNHS Clinical Practice Guideline Second stage of labour and Birth • WNHS Clinical Practice Guideline Second stage of labour - management of delay
Related Forms	Nil
Related Training Packages	Nil
Aboriginal Health Impact Statement Declaration (ISD)	Not required
National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards	1.27, 5.04, 5.06, 5.07 a, 5.12, 6.01 a & b, 6.09 a, 8.01 a & b, 8.10.
Aged Care Quality Standards	Nil
National Standards for Mental Health Services	Nil

8. Document Control

Version	Published date	Current from	Summary of changes
1.00	8 July 2024	8 July 2024	New policy and flowchart developed for WACHS context of practice in the management of second stage of labour in low-risk pregnant women. This relates specifically to endorsed WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines for second stage of labour.

9. Approval

Policy approval	WACHS Safety and Quality Executive Committee
Contact	Coordinator of Midwifery
Business Unit	Nursing and Midwifery
EDRMS #	ED-CO-24-205367
<i>Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.</i>	

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.