



Idaho Board of Nursing

Position Statement

Ankyloglossia (tongue ties)

As part of its duty to protect public health, safety, and welfare, the Idaho Board of Nursing regulates and oversees midwifery in the State of Idaho. The Board is dedicated to promoting high-quality healthcare services for the citizens of Idaho.

The Idaho Board of Nursing, in concert with the Midwifery Advisory Committee, has reviewed and discussed ankyloglossia (tongue ties) and the practice of midwifery. The Idaho Board of Nursing finds that ankyloglossia is a congenital anomaly. As such, licensed midwives are reminded that IDAPA 24.26.01.204.02(d) Newborn Consultation Required dictates with whom a licensed midwife must consult: “a Pediatric Provider (Neonatologist, Pediatrician, Family Practice Physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, or Physician Assistant).”

The Board recognizes that third-party providers may diagnose this condition and refer for treatment without the knowledge of the licensed midwife. The Board will not penalize licensed midwives for a third-party provider’s non-conforming referral made without consultation of the midwife. The Board simply advises licensed midwives to follow all relevant statutes and rules relating to the practice of midwifery.

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