

UK Healers Article
In Touch Magazine February 2009 issue

Changed Requirements relating to giving spiritual healing in pregnancy and childbirth

Here is an interesting article from the above magazine supplied by Rev Glenys Clarke.

“In 2008 the Midwifery Association of the UK changed its ruling on the subject of healers attending pregnant women, which of course is long overdue. The legal situation is however more complex.

1. Understand that the law still stands ‘that healers should NOT work with pregnant woman from conception until after childbirth’ This is clearly impractical, since mothers in early pregnancy often do not know that they are pregnant. They now also have the right to choose how and where to have their babies.

NFSH is therefore changing its ‘Code of Conduct’ on the matter. However this has to be agreed by several agencies. So far we have the agreement of David Balen our Insurer to our proposed change, but he has experienced several difficulties in the past in this area and so he has asked that we check with our Solicitors, and the Nursing and Midwifery Council. This Council has been contacted and we await their reply before we approach the Solicitors.

The draft proposal is as follows:-

1. All Healers should always act respectfully towards the attending midwife. Healers should acquire written consent from the mother-to-be in late pregnancy (36 weeks onwards), together with assurance from the mother-to-be that she has informed her midwife of this request for healing and that the midwife is in agreement.
2. This situation should persist until the completed delivery of the baby. A common sense approach should be made at all times, and especially during labour when distant healing may be more appropriate.

There may not be much choice about the final form of this Code-of-Conduct change, however if there are any members who wish to make any comments on this subject, then they are welcome to write to the Central Office. It is a positive step forward that this very old fashioned ruling on spiritual healing is at least being changed.”

It is advised that AUHS healers should await further advice from BALENS before seeking to attend a childbirth in the capacity of healer.