



# NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES (INC)

## Consensus Statement

### *Complementary Therapies*

*This Consensus Statement was ratified at AGM 27 September 2000*

*Original Statement 1995*

*References updated 2004, 2009*

The New Zealand College of Midwives recognises that complementary therapies such as homoeopathy, rongoa, herbal therapy, aromatherapy, naturopathy and acupuncture may have important effects on the progress of pregnancy, labour and birth, and the postnatal period for both the woman and her baby.

Midwives incorporating these therapies into their practice should either have undertaken a recognised education programme or refer clients to appropriately qualified practitioners.

#### Reference

Title: Understanding Diagnostic Tests in the Childbearing Years: An Holistic Guide to Evaluating the Health of Mother and Baby

Author: Ann Frye. 2007

Source: Labrys Press, Oregon

Title: Complementary Therapies for Pregnancy and Childbirth. Second edition

Author: Tiran, D. Mack, S. 2000

Source: London Balliere Tindall

Title: Complementary and Alternative Health Care in New Zealand

Author: Ministerial Advisory Committee on Complementary and Alternative Health, June 2004.

Source: [www.newhealth.govt.nz/maccch.htm](http://www.newhealth.govt.nz/maccch.htm)

ISBN 0-478-28287-7, Booklet. ISBN 0-478-28288-5, web.

Title: Complementary and Alternative Therapies Evidence-based Summaries

Author: New Zealand Ministry of health

Source: <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/cam-evidence-based-summaries-2003-2006>

Title: New Zealand Ministry of Health website on complementary and alternative medicine

Source: [www.cam.org.nz](http://www.cam.org.nz)

The purpose of New Zealand College of Midwives Consensus Statements is to provide women, midwives and the maternity services with the profession's position on any given situation. The guidelines are designed to educate and support best practice.

All position statements are regularly reviewed and updated in line with evidence-based practice.