

Summary of The Valley Hospital's Policies and Procedures for Doulas

A doula is a trained professional who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to a mother before, during, and after labor and childbirth, to help her achieve the healthiest, most satisfying experience possible.

It is a policy of The Valley Hospital to allow trained and qualified doulas to provide services to patients before, during, and after the patient's labor and childbirth.

To be permitted to access a Labor & Delivery patient at The Valley Hospital, an outside doula must meet certain qualifications, including:

- The doula must have completed an appropriate and adequate doula training program, such as those that are approved by NJ FamilyCare (Medicaid).
- The doula must agree to work cooperatively with the patient's nurse and any other TVH employees or providers involved in the patient's care. If the patient's physician or nurse believes that any service being performed by the doula is detrimental to the patient, they will notify the doula. The doula must then modify or terminate the activity, as requested.
- The doula must be free from any communicable or infectious disease which could be transmitted to others.
- The doula must be immunized for rubella, rubeola, mumps, varicella, and COVID-19. As to pertussis, the doula must be either vaccinated or have had a prior infection after 12 months of age. If the birth is scheduled or will take place during influenza season (October to April), then the doula must have received the influenza vaccination for the current influenza season.
- Doulas are **not** permitted to perform the following services for patients at The Valley Hospital:
 - Any clinical or medical tasks or procedures;
 - Make decisions for the patient;
 - Give the patient anything to eat or drink without the approval of the physician or nurse;
 - Use any oils or other substances that are not approved by The Valley Hospital;
 - Participate in any medical aspect of patient care.
- The doula must agree to indemnify The Valley Hospital and its affiliates, physicians, and employees from any liability occasioned by or resulting from the doula's conduct.
- The doula must maintain, at their sole cost and expense, professional liability insurance in the amount of One Million (\$1,000,000) Dollars per occurrence and

Three Million (\$3,000,000) in the aggregate on an occurrence basis covering the performance of doula services at The Valley Hospital.

- The doula must have read and agreed to comply with The Valley Hospital's Agreement for Doulas in advance of providing services at The Valley Hospital.
- The patient must have read and agreed to comply with The Valley Hospital's Patient Acknowledgement and Waiver for Use of Doulas in advance of receiving doula services at The Valley Hospital.

The list above is only a summary of Valley's Policies and Procedures for Doulas. The complete policy is available at the links below:

- [Policy PC-TVH-17.06 Doulas](#)
- [Exhibit A to Policy PC-TVH-17.06 Doulas \(Agreement for Doulas\)](#)
- [Exhibit B to Policy PC-TVH-17.06 Doulas \(Patient Acknowledgement and Waiver for Use of Doulas\)](#)
- [Exhibit C to Policy PC-TVH-17.06 Doulas \(Checklist for Doula Paperwork\)](#)