



Information on statistics and quality management of the Swiss Federation of Midwives

Dear*,

You are pregnant or have recently had a child. The Swiss Federation of Midwives (SHV) is glad that you are receiving help from a midwife during this important time.

With this letter, we would like to inform you that quality assurance measures are also necessary in connection with the midwifery services provided¹. For this purpose, the work of midwives is systematically recorded, evaluated and presented in statistics.

Objectives of the Swiss Federation of Midwives statistics

SHV statistics are important for presenting the work of midwives to the public and for fulfilling the requirements set out in contracts and approved by the Swiss Federal Council (monitoring of outpatient midwifery services and quality assurance). Do you wish to have a look at the SHV statistics? Link to the website: <https://www.hebamme.ch/qualitaet/statistikberichte-fph/>

Your contribution

The SHV and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) request your consent for your supervising midwife to be able to electronically record the services you have used. Together with electronic recording and/or invoicing, your baby's and your personal health-related data required for SHV's statistics and quality assurance flow into the analyses.

Data protection and confidentiality

We process the data collected and transmitted to us in accordance with the provisions of the Swiss Federal Act on Data Protection (DSG) and the Act on Information and Data Protection of the Canton of Zurich (IDG), in each case insofar as the relevant provisions are applicable. The ZHAW, in the sense of SHV and data protection laws, is responsible for data processing. The data is processed for the purpose of the statistics and quality assurance of the SHV mentioned above and on the basis of your freely given consent. So that the data from different software providers (accounting programs for midwives) can be merged and important parameters calculated, it contains limited personal information such as the converted AHV number, when you were born and your place of residence. This data is transmitted to the Institute for Midwives' research department at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) and merged. After the merge, the data is encrypted and the raw data is deleted two years after being analysed. Encryption means that the previously converted AHV numbers are replaced by random numbers. In addition, the canton of residency is kept instead of the place of residence and your age is assigned to a category. No conclusions about your person can be drawn from the encrypted data record without a key. The key with the assignment of random numbers to your data or to the converted AHV numbers is stored separately. The data is kept locked at the ZHAW, electronically stored and protected from unauthorised third parties.

The study results are published only in anonymous form, i.e., persons cannot be recognised, and no conclusions can be drawn about persons. Anonymised data may also be used at a later stage for secondary analysis or for educational purposes.

Ethical aspects

The Zurich Ethics Committee has confirmed that the SHV statistics do not fall within the scope of the Human Research Act and, therefore, no additional authorisation is necessary for collecting this data.

¹Within the framework of the current structural contract for individual services, which was concluded between the Swiss Federation of Midwives (SHV), the insurance associations santésuisse and curafutura, as well as the Interest Group of Swiss Birth Centres (IGGH-CH*), the SHV is obliged to monitor the contractually regulated midwifery services as a social partner with the insurance associations. Likewise, all contracting parties have undertaken to carry out up-to-date, efficient and measurable quality assurance within the meaning of Art. 77 KVV (Swiss Health Insurance Ordinance) and Art. 58 KVG (Swiss Federal Health Insurance Act).
With your consent, you will be supporting the SHV in fulfilling these official requirements.



Use

Taking part in the collection of statistical data is not associated with any particular benefit for you, nor is it associated with any disadvantages or work. However, they make a significant contribution to the quality assurance of midwifery care.

Rights

The provision of your data is optional. If you do not want your data to be included in SHV's statistics and quality management, your midwife will not send invoices directly to your insurance electronically, but will send you invoices for services you have acquired. In this case, you have to pay the invoice amount and submit it to your health insurance company for reimbursement. In this way, only the data necessary for invoicing is recorded.

Financing the statistics of the Swiss Federation of Midwives

The statistics of the Swiss Federation of Midwives are financed by the Federation of Midwives itself.

Contact person

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact SHV's service centre.

Email: schweizerischer-hebammenverband@hebamme-hin.ch

Declaration of consent

Surname, first name:

With your signature, you give your consent for your attending midwife to send you invoices electronically and thus for your child's and your personal and health-related data to be used for the Swiss Federation of Midwives statistics.

- I allow my data to be used for statistics and quality management of the Swiss Federation of Midwives and transmitted to the Institute for Midwives at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) .
- I confirm that I have read and understood the information on statistics and quality management of the Swiss Federation of Midwives. I had the opportunity to ask questions, and they were answered to my complete satisfaction.
- I know that participation in this survey is optional.
- I understand that the data is encrypted and the key is stored safely. The data will only be published anonymously.
- I have been informed that my personal and health-related data will be evaluated in encrypted form and treated confidentially at all times.
- I know that my data may be passed on in anonymous form for research purposes and teaching.

Place and date

Signature