

MS02 VT02 Midwife or Doctor

[Music]

Certainly all of those people: family practice physicians, OB/GYN doctors and midwives can in certain instances give you good pre-natal care. There are family physicians who do do obstetrics.

So if you have a family physician who feels comfortable with managing obstetrics, then that is perfectly fine.

An OB/GYN is another type of physician that obviously takes care of pregnant women. Their expertise is in not only normal pregnancy, but they also have more training in high-risk pregnancies. A midwife is a great option for some people as well.

So a nurse midwife is a nurse practitioner, so we are nurses with our masters degree, and we are specialized in women's health. We are trained in taking care of women throughout the life span, normal healthy women both pregnant and who are thinking about becoming pregnant.

Any woman who is considered low-risk, those with no medical problems, would be a great candidate for midwifery care. If you do have medical problems, each of those will be evaluated on an individual basis, and your midwife would

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typically collaborate with your physician to decide what's best for you as an individual.

Patients that have medical issues such as hypertension, diabetes, other chronic illnesses that may flare up during pregnancy, should definitely be followed by an obstetrician. They can still see a midwife in their labor, but a physician should be following them through the course of their care.

[End recording]