



Resource D: Role Play Script

Location: Labour and Delivery unit of local hospital

Role play characters:

1. **Midwife** or maternity care provider
2. **Sister of the midwife** who is also a **patient in active labour**

Additional persons needed: two observers

Materials: bed, cloth to cover patient, pitcher of water and glass, two chairs for the observers, observation forms for each observer, watch for at least one observer.

Time: Each role play will last ten minutes. Each group will perform the role play twice, with participants changing roles for the second role play. The observers will become the midwife and patient for the second role play.

Script

Patient: Before the role play begins, the participant playing the patient in active labour sits and remembers her own labour(s). She will role play her most difficult labour and will act out her discomforts and pain. If she remembers anything that helped ease her discomfort, she should make specific requests to her sister/midwife to relieve her pain.

Midwife: The midwife, or maternity care provider, is concerned for her sister and wants her to be as comfortable as possible during her labour. She also wants her sister to have a safe birth and is giving her the best care possible. The midwife has other patients and responsibilities and cannot be with her sister all the time, but tries to stay with her as much as she can.

Observers: The observers place their chairs away from the midwife and patient but close enough to see all activity. The observers do not talk during the role play. Each observer has an observation form and is quietly filling it in. Each observer fills in her own form and does not share or look at the forms of the other observer.

The role-play should end after ten minutes. The participants will switch roles, with the observers becoming the midwife and patient. The first midwife and patient now become observers.

The facilitator will come to each room with a role play and remind the participants of the time remaining (e.g. Five minutes to go! The role play is over—ten minutes have passed!)