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- Midwifery Council newsletter “Midpoint”
- New Zealand College of Midwives magazine “Midwifery News”

Summary of decision of the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal for publication – Mid12/221D – Ms Jan Scherp.

At a hearing held on 18 – 21 February 2013 the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal considered a charge of professional misconduct, laid by the Director of Proceedings, against midwife, Ms Jan Scherp. The charge arose from a medical condition that Ms Scherp was diagnosed with in 2003 and the impact of this condition on the care she provided during the delivery of Ms Sara Gutzewitz’s baby in February 2010. Ms Scherp denied all particulars of the charge and the matter was fully defended.

The Tribunal found that as Ms Scherp was able to control her medical condition, she was not under any obligation to inform Ms Gutzewitz or other midwives or clinical staff of it; there was no breach of the partnership relationship between Ms Scherp and Ms Gutewitz; there was no breach of the relationship with professional colleagues or to inform them she was unwell; there was no potential compromise to the care of Ms Gutzewitz as the staff midwife was in the room when Ms Scherp became unwell. None of the particulars of the charge were made out. The Tribunal found that Ms Scherp was not guilty of professional misconduct.

The full and substantive decision of the Tribunal can be viewed at: