

2013 Birth Outcomes Initiative Symposium

Theme: “Mapping the Future for Healthier Mothers and Babies in South Carolina”

The goal of this symposium is to highlight current areas of quality improvement and to raise awareness of evidence-based, best practices in perinatal health care in South Carolina. We will celebrate successes for mothers and babies during the first two years of SC Birth Outcomes Initiative and will look forward to issues on the horizon for 2014.

9 – 9: 30 a.m. Breakfast & Registration

9:30 – 9:9:45 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Tony Keck, Director, Healthy Connections - SC Department of Health and Human Services

Amy Picklesimer, MD, MPH, Clinical Lead for SC Birth Outcomes Initiative

As we continue to map the future for mothers and babies of our state, it is important to celebrate the highlights of our collaborative work to date and to welcome new partners.

9:45 a.m.

National Infant Mortality Update

Michael C. Lu, MD, MS, MPH

Associate Administrator of Maternal and Child Health
Health Resources and Services Administration
US Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Lu will join us by video to share a national perspective of current efforts to improve the physical and mental health, safety and well-being of mothers, children and families. Prior to his appointment with HRSA, Dr. Lu chaired the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality. He has served on two Institute of Medicine (IOM) committees (Committee on Understanding Premature Birth and Assuring Healthy Outcomes, and Committee to Reexamine IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Select Panel on Preconception Care. He is well known for his research on racial-ethnic disparities in birth outcomes, and his leadership on life course.

10 – 10:50 a.m.

March of Dimes National Perspective: Prematurity Prevention

Scott D. Berns, MD, MPH, FAAP

Deputy Medical Director and Senior Vice President, Chapter Programs
March of Dimes National Office

Dr Berns will invite us to join MOD in recognizing November as Prematurity Awareness Month, a campaign to raise public awareness of the problems of prematurity and to address preventable pre-term birth. He will share MOD quality improvement initiatives such as “Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait” and other community intervention programs aimed at helping families have full-term, healthy babies.

10:50 a.m.

Break

11-11:50 a.m.

Putting the “M” back in Maternal/Child Health

M. Kathryn Menard, MD, MPH

Vice Chair for Obstetrics and Director, UNC Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Co-Director, Center for Maternal and Infant Health

University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Pregnancy and childbirth is a joyous and safe experience for the majority of mothers in the United States, and ob-gyns play the leading role in delivering this care. Yet the US lags behind other industrialized nations in healthy births, and we know very little about why. Congress and the federal government have important roles to play by helping fund major research initiatives to help us understand the links and effective strategies to help ensure safe births and healthy babies. Dr. Menard will share highlights of the ACOG Maternal health Initiative (MOMS). It is a multi-pronged approach that will help the US develop and implement evidence-based interventions to improve maternal health.

12-1:15 p.m.

Lunch/Introduction of BOI Workgroup Chairs /Networking

1:20 – 2:30 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

I. **“CenteringPregnancy” – What, Why and How?**

Speaker - Mary Alice Grady, MS, CNM

Consultant and Trainer

CenteringHealthcare Institute

CenteringPregnancy is an evidence-based model of prenatal care that is associated with lower rates of preterm deliveries and higher rates of patient satisfaction. The March of Dimes, SC Department of Health and Human Services, and Federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are all funding the CenteringPregnancy model of care. Providers should evaluate if CenteringPregnancy is a fit for their practice.

This session will cover:

- What is CenteringPregnancy? How does group prenatal care work?
- Why Centering? A review of the evidence.
- Would it work for us? What are the readiness indicators? What is the process for moving to group prenatal care?

II. Behavior Health and SC Birth Outcomes (repeated)

Panel Presentation:

- **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome**
Jennifer A. Hudson, MD, Medical Director, Newborn Services
Greenville Health System
- **SC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (SCRIPTS)**
Christie J. Frick, RPh, Director
- **Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)**
Allison Lukacic, Manager of Health Improvement Initiatives, Office of Health Outcomes
SC Department of Health and Human Services
- **Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT)**
TBA (speaker invited)

The Behavioral Health subcommittee of the Birth Outcomes Initiative (BOI), led by Bob Toomey, Director of the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS), focuses on how the treatment of behavioral health issues such as substance use disorders and mental health disorders play a role in birth outcomes. Currently, the Behavioral Health subcommittee is focusing on the increased data surrounding the diagnosis of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), which can indicate a newborn's withdrawal from opiates. Other points of advocacy have been identified stemming from this discussion such as engagement with the SC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (SCRIPTS), enhancing the SBIRT screening tool, the current use of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for substance use disorders in the state and creating more research surrounding NAS cases in South Carolina as compared to the national average.

As a result of the BOI Behavioral Health Subcommittee's focus on NAS, a pilot program has begun in the upstate. Greenville Hospital System's Neonatal Department and Phoenix Center have collaborated to employ a case manager as a liaison between the hospital and substance treatment for the mother when the need for treatment is identified at delivery as a result of neonatal abstinence syndrome being identified in the infant. This shared case manager is also engaging in research of a protocol for best practice in treating the infants diagnosed with NAS and establishing a referral continuum for the mothers.

III. Moving along the Pathway to Baby-Friendly, USA Designation (repeated)

The aim of this session will be to provide participants with information, tools, and motivation to help their facilities move forward along the pathway to "Baby-Friendly" designation, regardless of their current status. After a brief overview, the session will be led by a panel of champions from facilities in SC that have already implemented Baby-Friendly processes. This panel (in development) will include leaders from a variety of roles, including CEO, administration, physician, lactation and nursing, so that participants may interact with mentors specific to their own unique role in caring for pregnant women and newborns. South Carolina Breastfeeding Coalition representative will provide the overview for this session

2:30-2:45 p.m. **Break**

2:45 – 3:55 p.m. **Breakout Sessions**

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II. **Supporting Intended Vaginal Birth**

The goal of this session will be to provide evidence-based, current, best practice information on helping providers, hospital staff and pregnant women support intended vaginal birth. Benefits of vaginal births for women include shorter hospital stays, lower infection rates and quicker recovery. Babies born vaginally have a lower risk of respiratory problems. After a brief overview, the session will be led by a panel of champions (in development) to include physician, nurse and patient. Resources will be shared for providers to counsel patients on the benefits of allowing labor to start on its own in the absence of medical indications to induce.

III. **Behavior Health and SC Birth Outcomes (repeated)**

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practice in treating the infants diagnosed with NAS and establishing a referral continuum for the mothers.

3:55 – 4:10 p.m.

Closing: 2014 Goals

Bz Giese, Health Connections Program Director

Continuing Education Credits:

Medical, Nursing and Health Education credits are being sought for this educational event.