



Celebrating the Bright Spots

Northside Cherokee Hospital GaPQC Severe Hypertension Initiative

The L&D nursing staff have been very successful lately in their recognition and treatment of severe hypertension. We present the data in every staff and leadership meeting every month and post the results on our PI bulletin board as well. We also present a Dunkaroo cookie treat called a "slam dunk" to any nurse that successfully recognize and treat severe HTN. For any nursing misses an improvement form is shared with that nurse as a learning opportunity.

SUBMIT YOUR "BRIGHT SPOT" [HERE!](#)

GaPQC Updates

The GaPQC **Cardiac Conditions in Obstetric Care** Initiative is in full swing! Onboarding calls have concluded for our Wave 1 facilities and the implementation phase has begun. We are looking forward to supporting the 12 hospitals in our active pilot phase and our cardiac learning cohort.

The GaPQC will be assessing hospital readiness to move the **Severe HTN in Pregnancy** Initiative into sustainability phase. If your facility has demonstrated sustained improvement and would be interested in sharing key strategies for success with the larger collaborative, please email gapqc@dph.ga.gov.

The **Optimizing Newborn Nutrition** Initiative just celebrated one year of implementation in June! 40 sites participated in active improvement and 8 in the learning collaborative. The initiative accepts enrollment at any time, and interested sites are encouraged to contact Kimberly.Ross@dph.ga.gov for more information.

CDC's 2022 mPINC Hospital Reports have been sent to participating hospitals. An electronic version of the report was sent the e-mail of the survey recipient in mid-May. If you are unable to locate your hospital's mPINC report, please email mPINC@cdc.gov from your official hospital email address (include the hospital name and full address in your inquiry).

The GaPQC Website has been updated to include [Social and Structural Determinants of Health & Quality Improvement Resources](#).

Upcoming Events

July 11th from 2-3 pm ET

GaPQC Neonatal Webinar: Adapting Standardized Feeding Plans to Individual Patients. Click [here](#) to join the webinar.

August 1st from 2-3 pm ET

GaPQC Maternal Webinar: GaPQC Cardiac Conditions Resources for Patients and Clinicians & EHR integration of the CVD Risk Assessment at Northeast Georgia Healthcare System. Click [here](#) to join the webinar.

Save-the-Date: September 21-22, 2023

In-person Emory Decatur Hospital Perinatal Nursing Conference

Resources

Lifeline for Moms Perinatal Mental

Health Toolkit: Includes 'Action Plan for Mood Changes during Pregnancy or After Giving Birth' & 'Self-Care Plan' tool and can be accessed via Teams [here](#).

In the News

This year the Georgia General Assembly passed Senate Bill 46. This legislation revises current STD testing requirements for pregnant women by requiring healthcare providers who care for a woman during pregnancy to perform HIV and syphilis testing at the first prenatal visit, 28-32 weeks gestation, and most importantly for hospital providers, at the time of delivery. This law will go into effect July 1, 2023. Read more [here](#).

[Sweeping new study analyzes maternal health outcomes with SDOH](#)

[How State Perinatal Quality Collaboratives Can Improve Rural Maternity Care](#)

[Ways forward in preventing severe maternal morbidity and maternal health inequities: conceptual frameworks, definitions, and data, from a population health perspective](#)

Perinatal Mental Health

Georgia's **PEACE for Moms** (Perinatal Psychiatry, Education, Access and Community Engagement) Consultations are available for physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurse midwives. Discuss treatment and medication options, pregnancy risks, and community services. Get a psychiatrist on the phone within 30 minutes. All consultations are free and confidential.

Postpartum Support International's Perinatal Psychiatric Consult Line: available to all clinicians throughout the U.S. Call 1-877-499-4773 or visit the website to schedule a 1:1 consultation by phone with a perinatal psychiatry expert.

Maternal Mental Health Hotline: The 24/7, free, confidential Hotline is accessible by phone or text at the updated and easy-to-remember number 1-833-TLC-MAMA (1-833-852-6262). TTY users can use a preferred relay service or dial 711 and then 1-833-852-6262.

Patient/Provider Corner

Our patient was two weeks postpartum when she started experiencing what were, unbeknownst to her at the time, classic symptoms of hypertension.

"I just couldn't sleep, I lay down and I could just feel my heartbeat through my head and I couldn't breathe."

This was part of a larger pattern, so we created a pipeline for postpartum moms into cardiac follow-up.

Read Liberty Regional Medical Center's full story [HERE](#)