

## GaPQC Updates

Happy New Year to our hospital teams and partners! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. We are excited for the new year and look forward to supporting your **neonatal and maternal QI efforts** in 2024.

An **implementation survey** has been sent to our maternal teams to assess needs and evaluate progress with bundle implementation. We are hoping to collect survey responses from teams working on GaPQC's **maternal initiatives** so we can better support you all in 2024. If you haven't completed the survey yet, you may do so [HERE](#). This may help get your **team recognized at our Annual GaPQC conference!**

GaPQC attended the **National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (NNPQC)** meeting in Denver, Colorado Dec 5-6th. The team participated in a poster session focusing on **GaPQC's Severe HTN in Pregnancy** initiative and also presented on **GaPQC's Cardiac Conditions in OB Care (CCOC)** initiative during the implementation breakout session.

We are excited to announce the addition of hospitals to our **Wave 2 Cohort** for the CCOC initiative. Is your team interested in enrolling in the CCOC initiative? If so, you can download and complete the enrollment [HERE](#) or visit [www.georgiapqc.org/cardiac-conditions](http://www.georgiapqc.org/cardiac-conditions) to learn more.

Thank you to Atrium Health Floyd and Augusta University Health Medical Center/ Wellstar MCG Health for **participating in ONN site visits.**

## Celebrating the Bright Spots

### HOPE For Georgia Moms Northeast Georgia Medical Center

To implement the CCOC AIM Bundle, Northeast Georgia Medical Center partnered closely with Northeast Georgia Physician Group (NGPG), The Longstreet Clinic (TLC) Obstetrics, The Women's Heart Center at Georgia Heart Institute (GHI) Cardiology, as well as staff from Emergency Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing.

A key focus of the CCOC AIM bundle is for providers to recognize the importance of screening pregnant and postpartum women for increased risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD). The IT Department built the CMQCC CVD Risk Assessment into EPIC, which included a standardized order panel for those identified "at risk," and a corresponding Best Practice Alerts (BPA) for both nursing and providers.

As of 1/4/2024, a total of 885 patients have been screened with either paper or EPIC integrated CVD Risk Assessment, which has resulted in 33 patients deemed "at risk" (3.7% positivity rate) and who have received a follow-up referral with The Women's Heart Center. Our next steps include implementing the CVD risk assessment in the systems OB and Primary Care offices, as well as the 9 Urgent Care offices.



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

## Resources

The 2023 **March of Dimes Report Card** highlights key indicators to describe the current state of maternal and infant health. **New** this year is the **inclusion of maternal mortality, leading causes of infant death**, and data describing selected **risk factors for preterm birth**. View Georgia's report card [here](#).

[AHA, AAP Update Neonatal Resuscitation Guidelines](#)

[National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services \(CLAS\) in Maternal Healthcare](#)

The Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance (MMHLA) recently **released two new fact sheets:**

- [Birth Trauma and Maternal Mental Health Fact Sheet](#)
- [Maternal Mental Health Overview Fact Sheet](#)

[Five Steps To A Maternity Value-Based Payment Demonstration That Advances Racial Equity](#)

## Upcoming Events

**January 18th from 12-1 pm EST**  
Reproductive Mental Health ECHO: 10 (plus) Commandments for Perinatal Mental Health. Register [here](#).

**January 23th from 3-4 pm EST**  
The Equity Exchange: A new equity-focused virtual event series hosted by NICHQ's Department of Health Equity and Innovation. Register [here](#).

**January 24th from 12:30-1:30 pm EST**  
EPIC Breastfeeding Education Series: Complementary Nutrition Before Age One: not 'just for fun.' Register [here](#).

**January 30th from 12-1 pm EST**  
PQI Innovation Free Webinar Series: A Narrative Review of the Role of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives in Promoting Birth Racial Equity. Register [here](#).

**April 11th & 12th**  
34th Annual Emory Breastfeeding Conference: In-person at the Emory Conference Center. Registration will open soon!  
Pre-Conference Workshop **April 10th:** Breastfeeding Fundamentals for Health Care Providers.

**April 16th - 18th**  
AMCHP Conference: Partnering with Purpose; Oakland, CA. Register [here](#).

**April 14th - 18th**  
Synova NICU Leadership Conference Sunseeker Resort, Charlotte Harbor, FL Register [here](#).

**April 25th & 26th**  
GaPQC's Annual Conference will be held at the Emory Conference Center. More info TBA.

## Patient/Provider Corner

Welcoming our four new Individuals with Lived Experience!

**Quantrilla Ard**  
**Kate Carhart**  
**TaShae Lawrence**  
**Jennifer Mitchell**

We look forward to all their expertise & support to GaPQC.

## Areas of Opportunities

**CHAMPS National Program:** A new nationwide program by the Center for Health Equity, Education, & Research (CHEER) to improve **maternity care practices supporting breastfeeding** is live! The program is a collaboration between CHEER and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CHAMPS National will enroll and work with 100 US hospitals to **increase breastfeeding rates and decrease disparities**. There are **still spots available** and **looking to enroll hospitals** in areas of high need. Learn more [here](#).

- **Colquitt Regional Medical Center** is one of the first 10 hospitals enrolled!

**GaPQC Lived Experience Integration (LEI) Program:** As part of the LEI program, our **Individuals with Lived Experience (ILEs)** have undergone comprehensive training and orientation. They are now poised to **actively engage in our committees, bringing a wealth of firsthand experience and unique perspectives** to enrich the GaPQC initiatives. Their readiness underscores our commitment to inclusivity and the meaningful integration of diverse voices in shaping and enhancing the program. For more information about the program, contact **Annie Rouza, M.D., Physician Advisor**.

**Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) Member:** DPH is **seeking applications** for members of the Georgia MMRC. As an MMRC member, you will play a crucial role in maternal mortality surveillance and prevention. **DPH is seeking to fill the following positions:** maternal fetal medicine, obstetrics, cardiology, perinatal psychiatry, certified nurse midwife/advanced registered nurse, social worker, mental health therapist, addictions/substance use disorder specialist, community-based organization, doula, behavioral health peer support specialist, home visitor, and community health worker. For more information, click [here](#). To apply, complete this [online application](#) by January 15, 2024.

## DPH Recognizes Hospitals For Completing Maternal And Neonatal Levels of Care Verification

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is recognizing hospitals that have successfully completed the maternal and neonatal levels of care verification. Each level of care provides guidelines that help ensure mothers and infants receive care in a facility that has the personnel and resources appropriate for their level of risk.

"The Georgia Department of Public Health congratulates the hospitals that have successfully completed the Maternal and Neonatal Levels of Care designation process. DPH encourages other birthing hospitals to consider the designation process. Working together we can have a positive impact on the health and well-being of Georgia mothers and babies," said Erin Smith, RN, BSN, program manager, maternal and neonatal designation center at DPH.

- **Maternal Level of Care II:** Archbold Memorial Hospital, Colquitt Regional Medical Center, Crisp Regional Hospital
- **Maternal Level of Care III:** Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Northside Hospital Cherokee
- **Maternal Level of Care IV:** Northside Hospital Atlanta, Wellstar MCG Health
- **Neonatal Level of Care III:** Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital
- **Neonatal Level of Care IV:** Children's Healthcare of Atlanta- Egleston

For more information, please contact [Erin Smith](#).

## Recent Participation/ Attendance

GA Chapter American College of Cardiology

Inaugural Symposium to Address the Maternal Health Crisis in Georgia

Emory Perinatal Equity Conference at the Emory Nursing Learning Center- GaPQC presentation and home visiting presentation

National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (NNPQC) Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado- poster presentation



GA DPH attended and presented at the Symposium to Address the Maternal Health Crisis in Georgia.



GEORGIA PERINATAL QUALITY COLLABORATIVE  
2024 ANNUAL MEETING  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
APRIL 25th & 26th  
THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL  
ATTENDEE OPTIONS  
AVAILABLE



**GaPQC**  
CLICK [HERE](#) TO SAVE THIS EVENT  
TO YOUR GOOGLE CALENDAR!  
AGENDA AND REGISTRATION  
INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN 2024  
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[WWW.GEORGIAPOC.ORG](http://WWW.GEORGIAPOC.ORG)  
OR EMAIL: [INFO@GEORGIAPOC.ORG](mailto:INFO@GEORGIAPOC.ORG)



Georgia shared their current work, including CCOC, which incorporates mothers' experiences and ideas to improve perinatal care at the NNPQC annual meeting.

## Looking Ahead and More to Come

Maternal Data Reporting System Updates

AMCHP Conference: Maternal Health Innovation Grantee- HOPE for Georgia Moms and GaPQC Maternal Health CCOC partnership to expand cardiac care in Georgia

2024 Webinars and Office Hours with hospitals sharing information and stories

Improvement Advisement Update