

GaPQC Updates

GaPQC Maternal **Hypertension** and **Cardiac Conditions in Obstetric Care (CCOC)** data for **Q3 July - September** is due! Submission is due **October 31st**. Please enter your data into **SimpleQI**.

We are currently recruiting for **Wave 3** of the **CCOC Initiative**! If interested, you can download and complete the enrollment [HERE](https://www.georgiapqc.org/cardiac-conditions) or visit www.georgiapqc.org/cardiac-conditions to learn more.

Please be sure to join us for the **October Optimizing Newborn Nutrition (ONN) webinar** where we will present a **unique data collection request** that will be **recognized** at our annual conference.

Are you and your site interested in hosting an **ONN site visit**? Please contact [Laura Pattillo](mailto:Laura.Pattillo@emory.edu). Site visits are a great way to celebrate or re-invigorate your quality improvement efforts!

SAVE THE DATE: 2025 GaPQC Annual Conference "The Fourth Trimester: Not So Unforgettable"
Thursday and Friday, **April 24th & 25th, 2025**- Emory Conference Center

Celebrating the Bright Spots



Maternal Cardiac Roundtable Inaugural Event

More than 60 participants representing residency programs (Obstetrics, Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine), Cardiologists, Doulas, Individuals with Lived Experience, GaPQC hospitals, GA Ob/Gyn Society, Medical Association of Georgia, Northeast Georgia Health System, and the Department of Public Health, came together on October 2nd at Chateau Elan in Braselton. The gathering was to bring Georgia's top experts together to discuss maternal cardiovascular screening in various settings. HOPE for Georgia Moms partnered with GaPQC for this inaugural event to support efforts to improve outcomes for pregnant and postpartum people with cardiac conditions.

This event was the first of its kind with plans to continue the commitment annually! A special thanks to Dr. Afshan Hameed, national renowned speaker and AIM physician advisor from the University of California, Irvine for her support and advocacy of quality improvement efforts related to maternal cardiac disease. Watch Dr. Hameed's Grand Rounds presentation [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

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

OPS Training a Success at Piedmont Macon Medical Center

Piedmont Macon Medical Center in Macon, GA held an AWHONN Obstetrical Patient Safety (OPS) class for nurses working in their Women's Services department. The course is developed to have more self-paced learning prior to the in-person day that is filled with education, simulation, and skills station.

AWHONN's OPS class focuses on obstetrical emergencies and helps prepare healthcare professionals working with pregnant and postpartum individuals, for these situations by providing a solid foundation on knowledge and skills derived from evidence based best practices.

If your facility is interested in conducting or hosting an OPS Training session, reach out to [Jennifer Boland](mailto:jennifer.boland@piedmontmacon.com).



Loan Repayment Opportunity for Final-Year Health Professional Students

Applications are due **Thursday, November 7th, 7:30 pm ET**. [Find out more](#) about the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Students to Service Loan Repayment Program and how to apply.

Upcoming Events & Webinars

GaPQC Maternal Webinars, 2-3 pm
November 5th & December 2nd

GaPQC Neonatal Webinars, 2-3 pm
October 8th, November 12th, & December 10th

October 17th, 10-11 am
PQI Innovation Free Webinar: Labor & Birth in People with Excess Adiposity-Implications for Clinical Care. Register [here](#).

October 17th, 3-4 pm
AIM TAP Webinar Series: Postpartum Discharge Transition. Register [here](#).

October 29th, 10 am-4 pm
National Quality Improvement Essentials Conference. Designed to support learners in drafting quality improvement and safety action plans. Register [here](#).

November 15th & 22nd, 9:30 am-1:30 pm
National Speak Up Champion: Implicit and Explicit Racial Bias Education. Register [here](#).

November 26th, 1-2 pm
CCOC "Office Hours"

Patient/Provider Corner

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) during pregnancy & postpartum have been identified as significant contributors to maternal morbidity & mortality. Early detection and intervention have shown to improve outcomes.

GaPQC Co-Chair, Dr. Teresa Byrd, has collaborated with the six Obstetric residency programs across the state to implement the Maternal Cardiac Screening Residency Project.

This QI project began July 1st and aims to implement a standardized protocol for cardiac screening in pregnant and postpartum patients by utilizing the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) CVD screening algorithm to identify high-risk patients.

GaPQC is grateful for Dr. Byrd's leadership and the partnership with OB Residency programs and look forward to the published results to come from this state-wide project.

Areas of Opportunities

MoMMAs Voices & AIM Community of Learning A new four-week program for hospitals will begin on **Tuesday, October 7th**. If your facility is working to address **Respectful, Equitable, and Supportive care** as part of your quality improvement work; this is a great opportunity with excellent resources to assist. The community of learning incorporates **People with Lived Experience** and ways to effectively build a patient engagement culture and perform work that integrates patients and their support systems into perinatal work. For more information or to secure your spot, visit [here](#).

Step Up Together: Focused Action Cycle: A **FREE** education opportunity that equips perinatal health care providers to plan, conduct, and debrief interprofessional drills for community-based perinatal emergencies that require hospital transfers. Decide to run either an **intrapartum OR neonatal drill**. Includes: **a drill implementation toolkit, group coaching** to run your own drill, and **community debrief** with facilities that conducted the same drill. Next cycle **starts October 10th**.

Not On My Watch Inaugural Conference: The viral hashtag **#notonmywatch** and **#nomw** has become a live event! On **October 22nd**, birth workers will come together to learn, share, and grow to become part of the solution and help mitigate maternal morbidity and mortality. Register [here](#) and use promo code: "GaPQC24" for 100% off. There are limited seats and free registration will be on a first come, first serve basis.

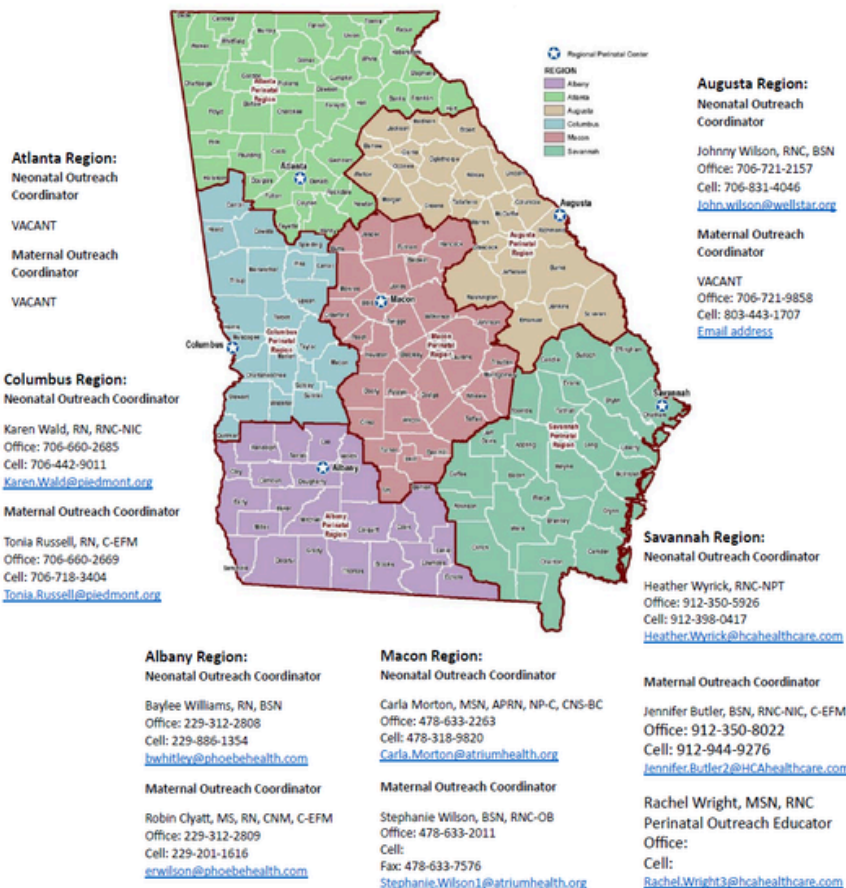
Obstetric Patient Safety (OPS): Obstetric Emergencies Workshop 3rd Edition: This OPS Workshop is designed to help clinicians identify, assess, and manage the patients with an OB emergency through simulation and debriefing. Workshop dates are (8 am - 4:30 pm): **October 24th**, and **December 4th & 5th**. For registration and inquiries, contact [Tasha Murchison](#).

Maternal and Neonatal Levels of Care Verification

Currently there are 3 hospitals scheduled for surveys and 19 working on their applications. More and more hospitals are recognizing the importance of the program and how it addresses newborn and maternal health needs, thereby elevating the quality of care in Georgia.

Click [here](#) for more information about the program and a list of the hospitals that have completed the designation process.

Map of the Perinatal Regional Centers and ORE Contacts



Resources

[ACOG Identifying and Managing Obstetric Emergencies in Nonobstetric Settings](#)

[Empowering Hypertension Management Through Blood Pressure Monitoring \(webinar recording\)](#)

AIM is hosting a **Technical Assistance Presentation (TAP) Webinar Series**. Season 3 started September 19th. View past webinars [here](#).

AIM for [Safer Birth Podcast](#) Season 2

[Hear Her Campaign](#)

- **New Videos:** women sharing their stories about during or after pregnancy
- **Urgent Maternal Warning Sign Posters and Conversation Guides** designed for **American Indian and Alaska Native** communities: available in [Cherokee, Choctaw, Yupik, and Navajo](#)

Sources of Support: Exploring Resources for Postpartum Depression. A video series that highlights different groups of providers

- [Part 1: National Maternal Mental Health Hotline Counselors](#)
- [Part 2: Doulas](#)
- [Part 3: Lactation Consultants](#)
- [Part 4: WIC Providers](#)

Publications

[2024 Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Prevention Report](#)

[ACOG Practice Bulletin No 212: Pregnancy and Heart Disease](#)

[Nowhere to Go: Maternity Care Deserts Across the US \(March of Dimes 2024 Report\)](#)

[Promoting Human Milk and Breastfeeding for the Very Low Birth Weight Infant](#)

[Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy: Progress Made and Future Directions for Patient Safety, Quality Improvement, and Implementation of a Patient Safety Bundle](#)

[There's No Such Thing as "Nonjudgmental" Debriefing: A Theory and Method for Debriefing with Good Judgment](#)

If the current outreach position for your region is vacant, please reach out to [Jennifer Boland](#) for educational needs.