

GaPQC Updates

Laura Pattillo, MPH, RN is our new **Sr. Manager for Neonatal Quality Improvement**. She will be supporting the GaPQC's neonatal initiatives and Collaborative wide priorities to improve maternal and infant health. Laura is a nurse clinician who brings over 7 years of clinical experience providing oncology and hematology care and has led quality improvement efforts to improve patient safety and outcomes. She also served as our Maternal Health ECHO intern where she completed an evaluation of the program and ensured alignment with education topics determined by the Maternal Mortality Review Committee.

Thank you to **Piedmont Columbus-Midtown** for hosting a GaPQC **Optimizing Newborn Nutrition (ONN) site visit**. We are still looking for two more units to host a site visit this fiscal year. If you are interested, please contact [Claire Eden](#).

It is not too late to join the ONN initiative! If you would like to join, please complete the enrollment form [here](#).

We are excited to announce the addition of hospitals to our **Wave 2 Cohort for the Cardiac Conditions in Obstetrical Care (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 to learn more.

CCOC "Office Hours" will be held every other month on the last Tuesday from 1-2pm EST. This is an opportunity for participating hospitals to share their work, lessons learned, challenges, and to interact with other facilities working on cardiac conditions across the state. For more information about the "Office Hours" or to request your name be added to the calendar invite, please contact [Amy Mock](#).

Wellstar MCG Health

Dr. Chad Ray, OB-GYN and Dr. Gyanendra Sharma, Cardiologist developed the Cardio-OB program in 2021, which became a fully granted program in 2022. It consists of a multidisciplinary team including: OB-GYN, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Heart Failure, Pediatric Cardiology, Interventional Cardiology, Neonatology, and Anesthesiology.

The Cardio-OB clinic sees visits for cardiomyopathy, pre-eclampsia, and any cardiovascular diagnosis or pre-counseling for mothers who want to become pregnant but have cardiovascular disease. They also assist moms in establishing PCP services, if necessary, and obtaining services to improve basic life needs. Since its inception, 50 cardiomyopathy patients and 113 pre-eclampsia and eclampsia patients have been treated.

Celebrating the Bright Spots



A patient of the Cardio-OB program shared her story on WRDW. It can be read [here](#).

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

Upcoming Events

April 11th & 12th

34th Annual Emory Breastfeeding Conference: In-person at the Emory Conference Center. Register [here](#).
Pre-Conference Workshop **April 10th:** Breastfeeding Fundamentals for Health Care Providers.

April 12th - 17th

AMCHP Conference: Partnering with Purpose; Oakland, CA. Register [here](#).

April 14th from 4-5 pm PST at the AMCHP Conference: **HOPE for GA Moms** workshop: "Partnering with Their Purpose in Mind: Working Successfully Across State, Clinical, and community Initiative."

April 14th - 18th

Synova NICU Leadership Conference
Sunseeker Resort, Charlotte Harbor, FL
Register [here](#).

April 25th & 26th

GaPQC's Annual meeting will be held at the Emory Conference Center. Register [here](#).

July 13th & 14th

Cardio-Obstetrics University's Virtual Case-Based Symposium. Register [here](#).

Patient/Provider Corner

LRMC L&D Lessons: Find The Need and Fill The Need As Fast As You Can!

It is a formidable challenge to work in any Labor and Delivery unit, especially in a rural setting. Our facility, Liberty Regional Medical Center, is one of the only two remaining critical access hospitals in the state of GA that offers obstetric services. We are a small yet efficient team with only two nurses per shift (one nursery nurse and one L&D nurse). While we celebrate our successes, we are continually learning from our experiences.

Click [HERE](#) to read a scenario that led to the opportunity to create and launch an "easy access" Eclampsia medication Pyxis kit to improve response time for obstetric emergencies.

2024 GaPQC Annual Meeting

Join us for the 2-day meeting:
April 25th @ 8am - 3pm
April 26th @ 8am - 12pm

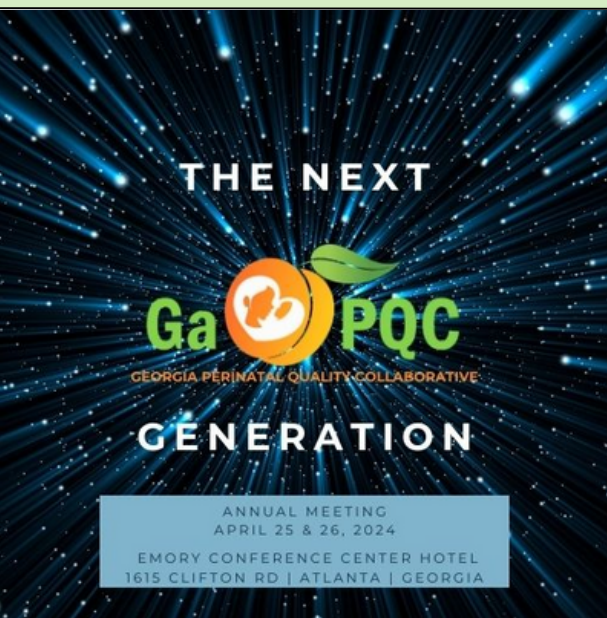
- CME & CNE credit available for in-person attendees
- Discounted early bird pricing is available until 4/12/24
- Registration ends 4/17/24
- Pre-registration required; no registrations taken on-site

The agenda can be viewed [here](#).

[Register today!](#)

Hotel Reservation

- If needed, use the link above to book your hotel room online or call 800.933.6679. Ask for room block "2024 GaPQC Annual Conference."
- Room price: \$179+tax/night
- **Room block ends 4/2/24**



GaPQC Needs Your Help!

GaPQC needs your help to develop a statewide OB Cardiology referral list to support providers and hospitals with timely and appropriate consultations and referrals for pregnant and postpartum patient with or at risk for cardiac conditions.

Take [this survey](#) to help support the creation of a statewide OB cardiology referral list.

Areas of Opportunities

CHAMPS National Program: A 3-year, CDC-funded program to help hospitals **increase exclusive breastfeeding rates, improve maternity care, and decrease racial disparities**. A hundred hospitals across the U.S. will get **free expert training and support** to safely implement the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding. Learn more [here](#). If interested, please fill out the [Expression of Interest form](#) and email the completed PDF to champs.breastfeed@gmail.com.

- **Colquitt Regional Medical Center** in Moultrie, GA was one of the first 10 hospitals enrolled!

Georgia Maternal Health ECHO: Provides a virtual community learning platform for clinicians and community advocates to collaborate on the implementation of solutions to **address maternal mortality and severe morbidity** in our state. ECHO sessions are monthly, and typically, on the third Wednesday from 12-1 pm. Register [here](#).

Obstetric Patient Safety (OPS): OB Emergencies Workshop 3rd Edition: This OPS Workshop is designed to help clinicians identify, assess, and manage the patients with an Obstetric emergency through simulation and debriefing. Material and registration paid in part by **HOPE for Georgia Moms and NGHS Center for Simulation and Innovation**. **Workshop dates** (8 am - 4:30 pm): June 5th, July 25th, August 19th, September 18th & 19th, October 24th, and December 4th & 5th. Successful completion of the **prerequisite** course is **required** prior to attending the live portion. Submit request to attend to [Tasha Murchison](#). Click [here](#) for more information.

Rural Maternal Health Series Webinar: A **4-part webinar series** to support access to safe, high-quality maternity care in rural communities. Focused on the needs of rural hospitals with and without birthing units, the series supports facilities to understand the new [Birthing-Friendly Hospital Designation](#) and earn the recognition through regional collaboration and implementation of patient safety care bundles.

- Use the following links to watch [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) of the series. Information for Parts 3 & 4 are under the "Upcoming Webinars" section.

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

"The Georgia Department of Public Health congratulates Coffee Regional Medical Center, Saint Francis Hospital Emory Healthcare, and Upson Regional Medical Center for successfully completing the Maternal Levels of Care designation process. It is DPH's hope that other birthing hospitals will also 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.

For more information about the program and a list of hospitals that have completed the designation process, please click [here](#).

Resources

The American Heart Association (AHA) released a scientific [statement](#) to review the **current evidence** on managing patients with **adverse pregnancy outcomes** are at increased risk of **cardiovascular disease**.

ACOG and partners released the following **emergency department materials**:

- [Identification and management of Obstetric Emergencies in Non-obstetric Settings](#)- downloadable PowerPoint
- [Cardiovascular Disease in Pregnancy & Postpartum Algorithm](#)
- [Acute Hypertension in Pregnancy & Postpartum Algorithm](#)
- [Eclampsia Algorithm](#)

"Every Mother Counts- Advocacy Toolkit": An introduction to advocacy and the tools you can use to push for change in your communities to advance maternal health and health equity.

"A Narrative Review of the Role of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives in Promoting Birth Racial Equity": A Perinatal Quality Improvement webinar recording

[Commitment to Action: Elimination Preventable Maternal Mortality](#) (Article)

AIM E-Learning Modules: Each course features a comprehensive overview of a AIM Patient Safety bundle and its key elements.

There are **3 new videos** available on the AIM Vimeo Channel on the follow data concepts:

- [Severe Maternal Morbidity](#)
- [NTSV Cesarean Births](#)
- [Maternal Mortality Data](#)

MHLIC developed and released a new module, ["Introduction to Implementation Science Frameworks in Maternal Health."](#) It is a basic overview of the Active Implementation Science Framework within the context of maternal health.

"The Practical Playbook III: Working Together to Improve Maternal Health": A first-of-its-kind guide for practitioners, researchers, community activists, and advocates of maternal health, offering a collection of practical tools and strategies from across the country to **improve inequities in maternal health**. A key focus of the book is to encourage collaboration across sectors to address the multifaceted challenges in maternal health.

[Strategies to Promote Maternal Health Equity](#) (Article)

Upcoming Webinars

April 9th at 2-3 pm EST

Rural Maternal Health Series Webinar: Part 3 "Implementing Patient Safety Bundles in Rural Hospitals." Register [here](#).

April 16th at 1-2 pm EST

The Equity Exchange Webinar: Reproductive Justice + Black Feminism. Register [here](#).

April 23rd at 3-4 pm EST

Rural Maternal Health Series Webinar: Part 4 "Obstetric Readiness in Rural Facilities without Birth Units." Register [here](#).

April 25th at 1-2 pm EST

Perinatal Quality Improvement Innovation Webinar: Improving Severe Hypertension Recognition & Response. Register [here](#).

May 7th at 2-3 pm EST

GaPQC Maternal Cardiac Lecture Series: "Equity, Bias, and Quality Care."

May 14th at 2-3 pm EST

[Optimizing Newborn Nutrition \(ONN\) Monthly Webinar: "Managing Hypoglycemia/ Hyperbilirubinemia/ Kangaroo Mother Care."](#)

May 28th at 1-2 pm EST

Cardiac Conditions in Obstetric Care (CCOC) "Office Hours."

June 4th at 2-3 pm EST

GaPQC Maternal Cardiac Lecture Series: "QI Change- Back to the Basics."

June 11th at 2-3 pm EST

[ONN Monthly Webinar: Piedmont Columbus Will Share Their Story from March's Site Visit](#)

July 2nd at 2-3 pm EST

GaPQC Maternal Cardiac Lecture Series: "4th Trimester Care and 3-Day Follow up for BP Checks."

Looking Ahead and More to Come

Maternal Data Reporting System Updates- We heard your feedback and plan to transition to a turnkey solution for maternal data collection in 2024. Maternal teams will manage their QI projects, engage with other teams, submit data, and view data reports all in one place. More to come!