Using Quality Improvement and Safety Science to Eliminate Pregnancy-Related Racial and Ethnic Health Inequities

Patient Safety Toolbox

Friday, May 13
1:00 - 5:00 PM ET
TARGET AUDIENCE: Obstetrician-gynecologists, maternal-fetal medicine (MFM) subspecialists, midwives, family nurse practitioners, women’s health nurse practitioners, nurses, hospital safety and quality staff, and administrators who are involved in implementing maternal safety and quality improvement at their hospitals to eliminate health disparities. This course is unique with its multi-disciplinary faculty and attendees.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: After this course, the learner will be able to:

- Describe the importance of racial and ethnic inequities as major contributors to potentially preventable pregnancy-related death in the United States.
- Develop an organizational team and strategy to make health equity a priority.
- Understand the use of disaggregated data by race, ethnicity, and language to identify and track disparities.
- Incorporate health equity into quality improvement and safety science strategies to eliminate racial/ethnic disparities.

HOW TO REGISTER: For more information and to register, visit bit.ly/jointQIcourse. If you are not already a member of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, you may be prompted to set up a free user account before you complete registration. The fee for registration is the same for members and non-members of SMFM. Registration for the live course is limited to the first 1,000 registrants.

In light of COVID-19, all registrants are required to submit payment via credit card. We regret that we cannot process checks at this time.

QUESTIONS? Contact Alexis Hooper (ahooper@smfm.org) or Kelly Hubbard (khubbard@smfm.org).
COURSE FACULTY

Allison Bryant, MD, MPH
COURSE DIRECTOR
Dr. Bryant is a maternal-fetal medicine subspecialist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and the Senior Medical Director for Health Equity for the Mass General Brigham health system. Her clinical, research, and health policy interests concern racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities in obstetrical care and pregnancy outcomes. Dr. Bryant serves on the Board of Directors for the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine.

C. Andrew Combs, MD, PhD
COURSE DIRECTOR
Dr. Combs is a maternal-fetal medicine subspecialist with the Obstetrix group in San Jose, CA. He is also the Associate Director for Quality and Safety at Mednax, based in Sunrise, FL. His clinical interests include implementation of quality and safety initiatives and the development of quality metrics to improve MFM practice. He is the immediate past chair of SMFM’s Committee on Patient Safety and Quality.

Christina Davidson, MD
COURSE DIRECTOR
Dr. Davidson is an Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Quality, Patient Safety and Equity in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. She is also the Chief Quality Officer of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Texas Children’s Hospital. Her clinical interests include implementation of quality and safety initiatives with a focus on elimination of healthcare disparities. She currently serves as the Chair of the SMFM Committee on Patient Safety and Quality and the Co-Chair of the Obstetrics Committee of the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies, which is the state perinatal quality collaborative.

Christian Pettker, MD
COURSE DIRECTOR
Dr. Pettker is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Services, as well as the Associate Chief Quality Officer at Yale Medicine. He is the Chief of Obstetrics at Yale-New Haven and previously served on the Board of Directors for SMFM.

Christie Allen, MSN, RN
Ms. Allen is the Senior Director of Quality Improvement and Programs for the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) and associated projects at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). With more than 20 year of nursing experience, she has worked as a Board-Certified Lactation Consultant, NICU and high-risk obstetrical nurse, and managed a state-wide program for pregnant individuals with active substance use disorder.
Rose Horton, MSM, RN
Ms. Horton is the Executive Director of Women and Infant Services at Emory Decatur Hospital near Atlanta and a past-president of the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses. She was recently tapped by the Biden Administration to participate in the Black Maternal Health Stakeholder Group. The stakeholder group is part of a public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the March of Dimes. Their focus: hospital-based quality improvement activities to advance equity in maternal health.

Catherine Eppes, MD
Dr. Eppes is a maternal-fetal medicine subspecialist at Baylor College of Medicine and the Chief of Obstetrics for Ben Taub Hospital in Houston, TX. Her primary areas of focus are quality and safety and infectious diseases in pregnancy, including influenza and HIV. She currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Obstetrics Committee of the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies, which is the state perinatal quality collaborative.

Lauren Arrington, DNP, CNM
Dr. Arrington is a faculty member at Georgetown University. She also practices full-scope midwifery at the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center. She has served as a maternal health advisor for Jhpiego and a volunteer for the American College of Nurse-Midwife’s Division of Global Health. She is passionate about health equity, health care justice, and global co-development for health care systems.

Patricia Lee King, PhD, MSW
Dr. Lee King is the State Project Director and Quality Lead with Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative where she directs the collaborative operations, implements statewide quality improvement initiatives, and provides quality improvement support to more than 100 birthing hospitals in Illinois. She serves on the Illinois Maternal Mortality Review Committee and State Quality Council and is an advisor to state perinatal quality collaboratives across the United States through her work with ACOG AIM and the National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives.

Jamille Nagtalon-Ramos, EdD, MSN, WHNP-BC
Dr. Nagtalon-Ramos is an Assistant Professor of Nursing at Rutgers University in New Jersey and a board-certified women’s health nurse practitioner at Penn Medicine. Her research interests have been fueled by her clinical expertise in women’s health and her cultural roots. As a third-generation nurse who was born and raised in the Philippines, she is passionate about exploring the Filipino American experience and investigating reproductive health and health disparities in diverse and vulnerable populations. Dr. Nagtalon-Ramos served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health.
Following completion of the course, 4 credits of Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) and 4 credits of Continuing Medical Education (CME) will be available. Participants should claim only those contact hours that they actually spent in the educational activity.

We are pleased to be able to offer this course at a rate of $25, thanks to generous support from the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM).

Live video webinars with ample opportunities for Q&A discussion with faculty. The course will be recorded for those unable to attend the live sessions.

Trashaun Powell
Ms. Powell is a maternal health advocate and patient family partner based in New Jersey. She survived a near-death pregnancy experience related to the diagnosis of HELLP Syndrome, which resulted in the birth and death of her first child at 23 weeks, as well as a near missed liver hemorrhage requiring multiple blood transfusions, surgery, and admission to the ICU. Ms. Powell now shares her childbirth story to raise awareness about the need for education about the maternal mortality health crisis and funding for a cure for Preeclampsia. She serves as a volunteer with the Preeclampsia Foundation and MoMMA’s Voices Patient Advocate.

Nicole Purnell
Ms. Purnell is a maternal health advocate and the program director of the MoMMA’s Voices Coalition. Her life was tragically changed in 2005 when preeclampsia and HELLP caused multiple organ failure, placenta abruption, and resulted in the stillbirth of her son at 34 weeks gestation. In the 10 years that followed, she chaired the Dallas Promise Walk for Preeclampsia along with several other volunteer roles. Based in north Texas, she now serves on the Executive Committee and Family Engagement Committee of the National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives and Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Committee for the National Quality Forum.

Jennifer Villavicencio, MD, MPP
Dr. Villavicencio is the lead for equity transformation at ACOG. In this role, she collaborates with ACOG’s staff, leadership, and external stakeholders to bring equity and inclusion to the forefront of all aspects of the organization. Dr. Villavicencio, a first-generation Cuban American, is an obstetrician–gynecologist with fellowship training in complex family planning and has expertise in health and public policy and communicating socially complex subjects.
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 – 1:05 pm</td>
<td>Welcome and Housekeeping&lt;br&gt;Dr. Christina Davidson</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:05 – 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Root Causes of Pregnancy-Related Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities&lt;br&gt;Drs. Lauren Arrington and Christina Davidson</td>
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<td>1:30 – 1:55 pm</td>
<td>Building a Strategy and Team to Prioritize Equity and Anti-Bias/Racism Work in Your Organization&lt;br&gt;Drs. Christian Pettker and Jamille Nagtalon-Ramos</td>
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<td>1:55 – 2:20 pm</td>
<td>How to Collect, Stratify, and Display Data&lt;br&gt;Dr. Andy Combs and Ms. Rose Horton</td>
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<td>2:20 – 2:35 pm</td>
<td>Panel Q&amp;A&lt;br&gt;Facilitator: Dr. Allison Bryant&lt;br&gt;Panelists: Drs. Arrington, Davidson, Pettker, Nagtalon-Ramos, and Combs; and Ms. Horton</td>
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<td>2:35 – 3:05 pm</td>
<td>Health Equity as Foundational to Perinatal Quality Improvement: How to be Intentional about Your Project Design&lt;br&gt;Drs. Lauren Arrington, Allison Bryant, and Christina Davidson</td>
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<td>3:05 – 3:35 pm</td>
<td>How to Incorporate Diverse Patients and Community-Based Organizations into Hospital Quality Improvement Committees&lt;br&gt;Ms. Nicole Purnell, Ms. Rose Horton, and Ms. Trashaun Powell</td>
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<td>3:35 – 4:05 pm</td>
<td>How to Incorporate Race/Racism/Bias/Social Determinants of Health into Severe Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Case Reviews and Debriefs&lt;br&gt;Drs. Allison Bryant and Jennifer Villavicencio</td>
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<td>4:05 – 4:20 pm</td>
<td>Panel Q&amp;A&lt;br&gt;Facilitator: Dr. Christian Pettker&lt;br&gt;Panelists: Drs. Arrington, Bryant, Davidson, and Villavicencio; and Ms. Purnell, Ms. Horton, and Ms. Trashaun Powell</td>
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<td>4:20 – 4:55 pm</td>
<td>How State Perinatal Quality Collaboratives Facilitate Actionable Strategies to Address Disparities and Promote Birth Equity with Q&amp;A.&lt;br&gt;Drs. Carey Eppes and Patti Lee King; and Ms. Christie Allen</td>
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<td>4:55 – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Closing&lt;br&gt;Dr. Andy Combs</td>
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