New Joint Commission
Standards for Maternal Safety
Practical Strategies for Implementation

Friday, October 23, 2020
1:00 PM to 5:30 PM EDT
Focus on Obstetric Hemorrhage

Saturday, October 24, 2020
10:00 AM to 2:30 PM EDT
Focus on Severe Hypertension
Practical Strategies for Implementation

PURPOSE: To help facilities meet The Joint Commission’s (TJC) new standards for perinatal safety.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Obstetrician-gynecologists, maternal-fetal medicine (MFM) subspecialists, midwives, nurse practitioners, women’s health nurse practitioners, nurses, hospital safety and quality staff, and administrators who are charged with keeping their facilities within TJC standards. This course is unique with its multi-disciplinary faculty and attendees. The hope is to establish a future collaboration among perinatal clinicians at all levels from education to practice.

BACKGROUND: In August 2019, TJC introduced new standards for perinatal safety. These standards are similar to the bundles on obstetric hemorrhage and severe hypertension introduced by the Alliance for Innovation in Maternal Health (AIM) in 2015. Hospitals often encounter barriers to implementation. 

This course will provide attendees with practical tips and helpful tools for implementation of the new standards, which will soon be required of all TJC-accredited maternity centers.
C. Andrew Combs, MD, PhD

COURSE DIRECTOR

Dr. Combs is an MFM 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 currently serves as the 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 and Patient Safety 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 Vice 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 Hospital and serves on the Board of Directors for SMFM.

Catherine Eppes, MD

Dr. Eppes is an MFM 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.

Jeffrey Fouche-Camargo, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB, C-EFM

Dr. Fouche-Camargo is an Assistant Professor of Nursing at Georgia Gwinnett College in Lawrenceville, GA. His graduate degree reflects dual specialization in perinatal nursing and as a WHNP. Jeffrey has extensive experience in inpatient obstetrics, where he led the development and implementation of high-risk protocols to support patient safety bundle implementation. Currently, he is a PhD candidate, focusing his work on destigmatization and decriminalization of pregnant women with substance use disorders.
M. Kathryn Menard, MD, MPH
Dr. Menard practices MFM as a Distinguished Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of North Carolina’s School of Medicine in Chapel Hill. During her tenure as President of SMFM, she worked to elevate two important initiatives: 1) strengthening regional systems by defining Levels of Maternal Care, and 2) providing leadership to convene the National Partnership for Maternal Safety, which laid the foundation for AIM and the broad dissemination and implementation of maternal safety bundles. She continues to serve on the AIM Executive Committee, as well as the Patient Safety and Quality Committees for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and SMFM.

Barbara O’Brien, MS, RN
Ms. O’Brien is the Director of the Office of Perinatal Quality Improvement at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Medicine in Oklahoma City. This office leads the work of the Oklahoma Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative providing education to perinatal care clinicians and leading quality improvement activities within Oklahoma birthing hospitals. Oklahoma was the first state to join AIM and has implemented the Hemorrhage and Hypertension maternal safety bundles, leading to an overall reduction in severe maternal morbidity of 22%. The majority of her clinical experience is as an inpatient obstetric nurse. She is an active member of the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) and serves as the national AWHONN representative for the Council on Patient Safety in Women’s Health Care.

Julia Phillippi, PhD, CNM
Dr. Phillippi is an Assistant Professor and Nurse-Midwifery Specialty Director at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in Nashville, TN and a Certified Nurse Midwife at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Her research interests include access to prenatal care, interprofessional team-based care, and innovative formats for midwifery and nursing education. She serves as the American College of Nurse-Midwives liaison to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Committee on Clinical Consensus Obstetrics and is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Midwifery and Women’s Health.

Eleni Z. Tsigas
Ms. Tsigas is the CEO of the Preeclampsia Foundation, the nation’s patient advocacy organization for hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. The Foundation’s mission includes advancing research, improving healthcare practices, and supporting and educating the affected community, of which Eleni as a two-time preeclampsia survivor, is a member. She also serves as the Principal Investigator of the Preeclampsia Registry, a living database which serves numerous research studies.
After this course, the learner will be able to:

- Discuss the importance of hemorrhage, hypertension, and racial inequities as preventable causes of maternal death in the United States.
- Discuss similarities and differences between TJC’s new standards for perinatal safety and the AIM bundles for obstetric hemorrhage and severe hypertension.
- Implement strategies for meeting the new standards, including written protocols and procedures, education of providers and staff, multidisciplinary drills, review of cases, and provision of educational materials to patients and families.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Details on CME will be available soon.

This activity is pending approval by the Continuing Education Approval Program of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health for 9 contact hours. NPWH Activity number 20-15.

Each participant should claim only those contact hours that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

COST
$40

FORMAT
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.
DAY 1 – FOCUS ON OBSTETRIC HEMORRHAGE
- Epidemiology of maternal mortality, severe morbidity, racial and ethnic disparities
- Obstetric hemorrhage: overview of the new standards and the AIM bundle
- Stage-based hemorrhage response checklists
- Massive transfusion, emergency release blood: implementing and troubleshooting
- Hemorrhage risk assessment tools
- Hemorrhage cart: overcoming barriers to successful deployment
- Meaningful measurement of blood loss
- Data tracking, case reviews, quality improvement for obstetric hemorrhage
- Panel discussions and Q&A

DAY 2 – FOCUS ON SEVERE HYPERTENSION (HTN)
- Severe HTN: overview of the new standards and the AIM bundle
- Severe HTN: implementation of Maternal Early Warning Systems
- Proper measurement of blood pressure and believing the blood pressure you measure
- Coordinating responses from emergency department, anesthesia, other departments
- Support for patients and families, discharge teaching, and educational materials
- Support for staff (second victim)
- Simulation resources
- Teaching your staff how to debrief hemorrhage and severe HTN cases
- Data tracking, case reviews, quality improvement for severe HTN
- Panel discussions and Q&A

HOW TO REGISTER
For more information and to register, visit SMFM.org/safetycourse. If you are not already a member of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, you will 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 500 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 Rebecca Abbott (rabbott@smfm.org) or Kerri Wade (kwade@smfm.org).