

Collaborating to Strengthen the Quality of Emergency Obstetric Care in the U.S.

PROJECT NAMES: Safe Motherhood Initiative (ACOG District II); Postpartum Hemorrhage Project (AWHONN); California Partnership for Maternal Safety (CMQCC)

SCALE: Approximately one million pregnant women

TIMEFRAME: May 2013 – April 2016



HELPING HEALTH PROVIDERS DELIVER CONSISTENT, APPROPRIATE MATERNITY CARE

ACOG District II, AWHONN and CMQCC are collaborating to put consistent policies in place to manage obstetric emergencies. The goal is to ensure that health providers can respond quickly and appropriately to warning signs of serious maternal complications with evidence-based guidelines and training. Together, the three organizations aim to deliver high-quality health care no matter where a woman gives birth in the U.S. Beginning in areas with disproportionately high rates of maternal mortality, the project has four key features:



Safety bundles

ACOG District II, AWHONN and CMQCC are developing sets of evidence-based practices to prevent and treat the leading killers of pregnant women in the U.S. (embolism, obstetric hemorrhage, and preeclampsia/eclampsia).



Large scale implementation

The three partners are implementing safety bundles in a range of settings across five states, from rural community hospitals to large urban facilities.



Evaluation of improvements

Partners measure the impact of the safety bundles on improving quality of care and maternal health outcomes.



National advocacy

Performance indicators and hospital-based outcome data help inform advocacy efforts to adopt safety bundles nationally — to improve the quality of care for the four million women who give birth in the U.S. each year.

ACOG District II is working with more than 10,000 providers and more than 100 delivery units across New York State (quarter of a million births each year) to develop and implement safety bundles for managing obstetric complications for the three leading killers of pregnant women — embolism, obstetric hemorrhage, and preeclampsia/eclampsia.

AWHONN is working with more than 55 hospitals (more than 120,000 births per year) to assess current obstetric practices in hospitals in Georgia, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. to improve clinicians' ability to recognize women at the greatest risk of hemorrhage and respond appropriately based on specific indicators, including quantified blood loss.

CMQCC is working with more than 250 labor and delivery hospitals across California (more than half a million births per year) to implement toolkits to manage obstetric hemorrhage and preeclampsia/eclampsia, and to track improvements in quality of care for severe maternal complications.

For more information and an update on progress, visit www.merckformothers.com, www.pphproject.org, www.cmqcc.org and <http://www.acog.org/About-ACOG/ACOG-Districts/District-II/Safe-Motherhood-Initiative>.