



Celebrating Black History Month

UNDERSTANDING BLACK FAMILIES AND THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH HEALTHCARE



Understanding the impact of systemic racism in healthcare and finding ways to support Black families is important to optimizing health outcomes. A recent article entitled, ***The impact of being Black while living with a chronic condition: Inpatient perspectives***, highlights family stories, offers insight into Black families' experiences and provides actionable strategies for clinicians and health systems. This is relevant for maternal, perinatal, and neonatal clinical teams and birth hospitals. **Read the full article [here](#).**



"When we (Black families) walk into a healthcare setting, there is sense that we need to cover ourselves. My hope is that with greater awareness, we can begin to be seen as partners by our healthcare system and healthcare providers. Let's build bridges with strategy and action."

– **LaToshia Rouse**, Mom of 10-year-old triplets who were born prematurely, Doula, Former NICU Family Advisor, Co-lead for National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives



"This significant contribution to the medical literature expresses in a relatable way the trauma of racism/discrimination, the fears of CPS intervention, and the adaptive behaviors of Black patients and families. The recommendations are well-outlined and actionable. Contributions such as this article highlight the importance of listening to the voices of our families, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds."

– **DeWayne Pursley, MD, MPH**, Chief of the Department of Neonatology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Associate Professor Harvard Medical School Department of Pediatrics, and chair, the American Board of Pediatrics Board of Directors



"Whenever we consider how we can address structural racism in medicine, the initial step has to be to center the voices of the patients in this reform. This article demonstrates the importance of that step and how often these voices can be overlooked."

– **Kamilah Dixon, MD**, Medical Director, Moms2B; Vice-Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Ohio State University

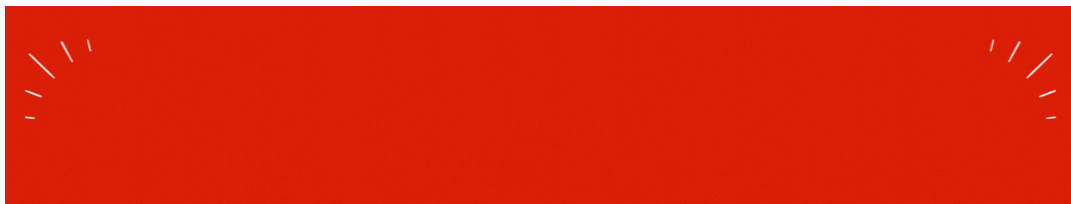
Wexner Medical Center; and faculty, the Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative

MATERNAL SAFETY AIM BUNDLE



Sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health, **the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) Hypertension project** is a quality improvement initiative that falls under the Ohio Maternal Safety Quality Improvement Project.

The AIM Hypertension project aims to address disparities and equitably improve severe maternal morbidity and mortality outcomes in Ohio through the implementation of best clinical practices for the treatment of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. The AIM Hypertension project is administered by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center (GRC) with quality improvement support from the Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative and subject matter expertise from Drs. Nancy Cossler, Kamilah Dixon, Kelly Gibson, Justin Lappen, and Patrick Schneider. A clinical change package developed by the project team may be found [here](#).





During the pandemic, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services allowed continuous enrollment in Medicaid for pregnant individuals.


As a reminder, the continuous enrollment provision for the Ohio Department of Medicaid's Pregnancy Risk Assessment Form (PRAF) **will expire on March 31, 2023, and terminations begin on April 1, 2023.**

The PRAF platform and email address is **Momsandbabies@medicaid.ohio.gov** and replaces **progesterone_pip@medicaid.ohio.gov**.

You can access the PRAF manual and updated videos to reflect the change in how users get access and log into PRAF 2.0. through by accessing the online manual or via YouTube:

- Access the updated [manual here](#)
- Access updated YouTube [video here](#)

Submitting a Pregnancy Risk Assessment Form will help ensure that a pregnant individual will remain enrolled in Medicaid through pregnancy and delivery, and during the postpartum period.



**For additional resources,
visit the Ohio Perinatal
Quality Collaborative
website at www.opcq.net**

Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative

