NEW OBSTETRICS REPORT
DELIVERY IN FOCUS: Strengthening obstetrical care in Canada

PURPOSE

IMPROVE
Identifies insights and strategies providers and healthcare leaders can use now to help improve outcomes for patients and their families.

EMPOWER
Presents data which providers and researchers can leverage as support for their own education and research.

FOCUS
Addresses system issues leaders can target today to achieve a positive impact.

KEY THEMES

Addressing system issues including workplace culture and team communication.

Strengthening team communication during the intrapartum phase of care.

Adopting human factor strategies as a way to identify and reduce errors in clinical decision making.

Enhancing provider clinical decision making including situational awareness and communication.

STRATEGIES

Strengthen clinical decision-making by providers
Facilitate and encourage simulation training and drills to acquire and maintain the following:
• Team-shared situational awareness
• Effective team communication
• Crisis response

Boost team communication
When a patient’s clinical condition deteriorates, speak up!
• Enhances team situational awareness
• Confirms team recognizes urgency

Bring system issues to light
Foster a culture of safety that encourages:
• Team escalation strategies for clinical concerns
• Interprofessional education
• Quality improvement

MOTIVATION

In 2016 the CMPA, HIROC, and healthcare partners published Obstetrics Services in Canada.

In the 2016 report, CMPA and HIROC identified 5 high-risk areas in obstetrics:

1. Fetal heart rate monitoring
2. Induction and augmentation of labour
3. Assisted vaginal delivery
4. Timing of the decision to perform a caesarean section (C-section)
5. Managing shoulder dystocia

Because 1 and 2 were the TWO highest shared risk areas for both groups, the CMPA and HIROC decided to explore these areas further to support learning from these cases.