

Aligning Maternal and Newborn Care Practices with a Focus on Quality

Objectives

- Based on the quality analysis conducted by The Joint Commission, identify the internal and external factors noted to be contributors to cesarean births in pregnancies with low-risk characteristics defined as nulliparous, term, singleton, and vertex (NTSV)
- Outline the multifaceted systems approach presented in The Joint Commission commentary and include the recommendations proposed to focus on improvement strategies as well as evidence-based strategies to lower NTSV cesarean section rates
- Describe the unique challenges of pursuing quality improvement approaches in the delivery room environment with specific focus on the processes and care involved in resuscitation of the neonate
- Explain how the *Textbook of Neonatal Resuscitation, 8th Edition* can be used as a delivery room quality improvement framework
- Identify areas where inequities in care or outcomes have been described in relation to the delivery room and NICU environments and discuss the need to incorporate equity into QI efforts

Content Outline

1. Strategies for Improvement in High Primary Cesarean Section Rates
 - 1.1 Background and purpose of commentary update
 - 1.2 External and internal contributors to NTSV cesarean births
 - 1.3 Recommendations to decrease NTSV cesarean section rates
 - 1.4 Evidence-based strategies and approaches
2. Quality Improvement Related to Neonatal Resuscitation and Delivery Room Care
 - 2.1 Areas of delivery room quality improvement focus in the literature
 - 2.1.1 Hypothermia prevention
 - 2.1.2 Delayed cord clamping
 - 2.1.3 Respiratory care improvement
3. Examples of frameworks for delivery room care QI initiatives
4. Unique challenges related to QI initiatives in the delivery room
5. Identifying and targeting inequalities of care and outcomes in OB and NICU
6. Challenges and opportunities presented by response to COVID-19 pandemic

Reading Material Resources

Module WB2535 Aligning Maternal and Newborn Care Practices with a Focus on Quality is based on the resources listed below. A copy of each resource is included with the module.

Commentary – High Primary Cesarean Section Rates: Strategies for Improvement, Crespo FA and Verma U, *The Joint Commission on Quality and Patient Safety*, (2022), 48, 617-624

Quality improvement for neonatal resuscitation and delivery room care, Whitesel E et al., *Seminars in Perinatology*, 46 (2022), Article 151629, 1-13