

# John Bel Edwards

## GOVERNOR

## Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

## SECRETARY

## SECRETARY

### State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health

Office of Public Health

**LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON PERINATAL CARE**

**AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY**

<https://zoom.us/j/613695598> Phone: 602-333-0032 Code: 695902

July 16, 2020

Attendees: Dr. P. Scott Barrilleaux, Dr. Steven Spedale, Dr. Rodney Wise, Dr. Joseph Biggio, Amy Zapata, Leslie Lewis, Dr. Robert Blereau, Dr. Tina Stefanski,

Dr. Marshall St.Amant

Guests: Dr. Lyn Kieltyka, Dr. Veronica Gillespie, Amy Ladley, Kerri Redmond, Karis Schoellmann, Rosi Trichilo, Rachelle Boudreaux, Lacey Gero, Marci Brewer, Tisha Reed, Keshia Holmes, Gloria Grady, Dionka Pierce, Gail Gibson, Becky Majdoch, Traci Perry, Lakisha Flagg, Nicole Soudelier, Shavia Scott, Jane Herwehe, Lisa Norman, Sara Dickerson, Debra Feller, Amanda Dumas, Berkeley Durbin, Marty Hennegan, Alexis Hernandez, Rachel Purgatorio, Dr. James Hussey, Rep. Stephanie Hilferty

Approval of Meeting Notes;

* With a quorum present, meeting notes of March & May 2020 were approved.

Report/Presentation: Perinatal Commission Authorized Projects

* **Pregnancy Associated Mortality Surveillance (PAMR)**
* Rosi Trichilo presented a recap of the PAMR collection and review process.
* An explanation of the differences between the new 2017 PAMR report (to be released soon) and the 2011-2016 PAMR report was provided, highlighting that comparisons of the 2 reports is not possible. The 2017 report reflects a review and analysis of all pregnancy associated death, not just an analysis and review of pregnancy related deaths as is provided in the 2011-2106 report.
* A brief overview of the 2017 findings were presented - including the leading causes of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths.
* The review of 2018 cases is underway, with an anticipated report of 2018 data released in the summer of 2021, and with a 2017-2019 data report anticipated for summer of 2022.
* **Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative (LaPQC)-** Dr. Gillispie and team presented a year in review of the initiatives under LaPQC: Reducing Maternal Morbidity Initiative, The Gift, NOWS Pilot, and Safe Births Initiative.
* **Reducing Maternal Mortality Initiative (RMMI***)* Initial findings from the RMMI**,** *that had the goals to achieve a 20% reduction in birth events related to hemorrhage and/or severe hypertension/preeclampsia and to reduce the black-white disparity in these outcomes* (August 2018-May 2020) were presented. Final results will be available early 2021.
  + Amy Ladley reported that the LaPQC is testing new data collection and entry platforms to promote increased access to information.
  + Commission members discussed the issue of implicit bias in healthcare settings and discussed questions related to how LaPQC was collecting data. Further discussion resulted in commissioners requesting more actionable ways to address and research implicit bias. Dr. Gillespie offered to provide information regarding health equity and implicit bias during the next commission call in August.
* **Safe Births Initiative-**Amy Ladley provided information on the *new* Safe Births Initiative. Focus on hemorrhage and hypertension will continue, reinforced by a proposed new designation plan- Louisiana Birth Ready (discussed later). In addition, focus will be on lowering the C-section rate among low-risk births.
* **The Gift-**Marci Brewer provided an overview of the work of *The Gift* and reported that 94% of all births in Louisiana occur at a Gift designated facility. Strategic priorities continue to include increasing capacity of hospitals to conduct CQI activities and increasing staff and provider knowledge via training. Collaboration with other initiatives will grow, including engagement with pediatric and free-standing birth centers.
* **Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS) Pilot-** This projectinitiated as a result of Act 174 of 2018 regular legislative session, charged LDH with creating a pilot demonstration project to optimize outcomes associated with (NOWS). With 4 participating hospitals, the shared goals and priorities are around standardizing best practices, quality improvement capacity, addressing health equity, and addressing stigma and bias of families affected by opioids. Marci Brewer reported that the NOWS group will developing advisory teams, conducting surveys, and developing trainings and tools.

Defining Agents and Activities of the Perinatal Commission

In order to protect programmatic work and data collection and analysis related to infant and maternal mortality, on behalf of the Commission, two documents were presented for formal adoption by the Commission that define “studies/activities” and “agents” of the Commission.

**The Commission voted unanimously to approved and adopt these documents.**

Birth Ready Designation Program -Amy Ladley presented the proposed LaPQC’s new “Birth Ready Designation” Program. Members raised questions regarding the differences between being participants in PQC and being recognized as a birth ready designee and expressed concern over potential additional burden would be on participating facilities. The commission voted to defer discussion to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Regular Updates

* A presentation regarding the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) will be presented during the September meeting.
* Membership Sub-committee would like to formalize the recruitment and onboarding process a bit more. Is developing a Board Member job descriptions. There are currently 3 vacancies.

Adjourn – Regular Meetings will continue to be on the third Thursday of every other month in 2020 from 1:00-3:00. The next in-person meeting will be **on September 17, 2020**. Workgroup calls will be held on the third Wednesday of every month with **the next call on August 19, 2020** from 11:30-12:30.