

Illinois Maternal Health Innovation Program Maternal Health Emergency Department (ED) Toolkit

ABOUT THE INNOVATION

The Illinois Department of Public Health’s Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Reports have included recommendations for the care of perinatal patients in Emergency Department (EDs). To help understand barriers to identifying and treating perinatal patients in EDs, PROMOTE-IL surveyed facilities between December 2020- January 2021. Results showed the need for increased support for providers in this area. In early 2022, the University of Illinois – Chicago’s Center for Research on Women and Gender (CRWG), in partnership with I PROMOTE-IL, convened the Maternal Health ED Task Force which developed an educational toolkit over a 16-month period. The content is organized into five modules:

- **Module A:** outlines the current state of maternal health in Illinois based on data from Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs) and the Illinois Department of Public Health
- **Module B:** uses a Respectful Maternity Care approach to provide an overview of acuity assessment and includes five case studies of common physiological causes of maternal mortality in Illinois
- **Module C:** outlines best practices for conducting universal screening for depression, anxiety, suicide risk, and SUDs in the ED
- **Module D:** discusses best practices for treating trauma and performing resuscitation during pregnancy
- **Module E:** developed discharge materials for pregnant and postpartum patients in the ED

Project Goal: To design and distribute a statewide training module on the role of the ED on the care of perinatal patients.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS & MEMBERSHIP

- 16 meetings from January 2022 to May 2023
- 52 members from across Illinois including: epidemiologists, nurses, physicians, regional perinatal administrators, social Workers and researchers

NEXT STEPS

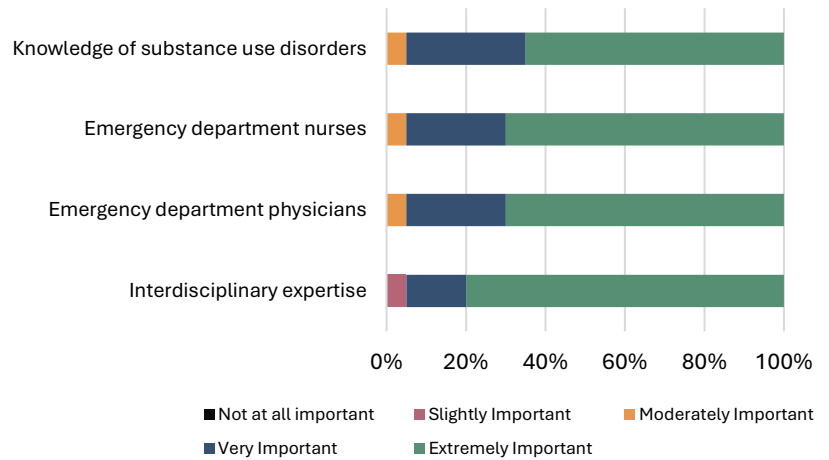
- Toolkit was piloted in 6 hospitals from May 2023 though June 2024 with positive results
- Changes to Toolkit based on pilot are being made from July 2024-December 2024
- Statewide rollout begins January 2025



TOOLKIT DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

- Conducted the evaluation in May 2023 via Survey and Listening Session among members
- Successes included:
 - Recruiting experts with interdisciplinary knowledge
 - Regularly scheduled, virtual meetings
 - Working in small teams
- Challenges included:
 - Lack of compensation for Task Force members
 - Low participation of ED providers and staff members

Task Force members responses to: “When creating the Maternal Health ED Toolkit, how important is it to have a team that includes:”



ABOUT CRWG

The Center for Research on Women and Gender (CRWG) at the University of Illinois - Chicago’s mission is to improve the health and well-being of women and their communities. CRWG is at the forefront of innovative research programs dedicated to advancing our understanding of women’s health and gender-related issues. With a commitment to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, CRWG’s research initiatives cover a spectrum of critical areas such as reproductive health, gender-based violence, and healthcare disparities.

ABOUT I PROMOTE-IL

I PROMOTE-IL (Innovations to ImPROve Maternal OuTcomes in Illinois) is one of the nine original projects funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration’s State Maternal Health Innovation Program in 2019. This program was developed to support states implementing novel approaches to address maternal mortality and morbidity. I PROMOTE-IL is housed at the University of Illinois- Chicago and was funded from 2019-2024. Visit our website: <https://ipromoteil.org/>



Maternal Health Learning & Innovation Center™

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