

USF Health

January 4, 2022

Greetings OB Providers!

For the past 18 months, the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative's (FPQC's) Maternal Opioid Recovery Effort (MORE) Initiative has been working with OB providers, hospitals and state partners to address the needs of mothers with opioid use disorder. At this time, we would like to roll out our recommended MORE prenatal checklist. With this, we hope to help OB providers and their team to identify pregnant patients who need special assistance earlier in their pregnancies and help them and their babies to have the best possible outcomes.

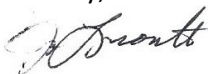
We encourage you to **screen every OB patient with an evidence-based verbal or written screening tool** as recommended by ACOG. Laboratory screening alone is neither sensitive nor accurate. Mothers who have a positive screen should be counseled and referred for medically assisted treatment (MAT) and other community support services. These services may include case management by their Medicaid health plan as well as access to housing and food, mental health care and family support. There are **billing codes** for both screening and referral that are now reimbursed by Florida Medicaid and the Medicaid plans. AHCA/Medicaid is now offering a **free CME** (0.5 credits) online course on these at <https://cme.ufl.edu/screening-brief-intervention-and-referral-to-treatment-sbirt-for-pregnant-women-and-other-adult-patients/>.

Your local Healthy Start program has been working with the FPQC MORE Initiative to identify local **resources for MAT, mental health services and naloxone** and have this information available to you. In addition, AHCA/Medicaid has provided **direct referral lines** and email addresses for case manager programs for each of the Medicaid health plans so that the case managers can assist the mother in arranging for these services.

Finally, FPQC has partnered with Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care to provide two free CME (1.25 credits) online courses to familiarize OB providers with prescribing buprenorphine and how to incorporate buprenorphine prescribing into your practice (<https://vumc.cloud-cme.com/course/search?p=4000&curriculum=TIPQC>). There is a recorded discussion webinar on lessons learned with adding Buprenorphine treatment to your obstetrical practice on January 18th at 4:30 pm ET: <https://tipqc.org/tipqc-fpqc-training/>. Many mothers prefer not to or cannot be conveniently enrolled in methadone programs. They need access to Buprenorphine treatment where clinical outcomes are better for both the mother and baby.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need assistance at FPQC@usf.edu" FPQC@usf.edu. Thanks for all that you do for mothers and babies in Florida.

Sincerely,



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