

## **Perinatal Quality and Safety Fellowship**

Rates of both maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity continue to rise. Racial and ethnic disparities exist, and Black non-Hispanic birthing people have rates of pregnancy related mortality that are three times higher than those who are non-Hispanic white. In order to improve outcomes and eliminate disparities perinatal professionals must develop evidenced based and well-designed quality improvement initiatives which address the equitable provision of care and that are targeted at the unique quality and safety issues identified at their site.

The Maryland Patient Safety Center, under their direction of their Director of Perinatal and Neonatal Quality and Patient Safety is offering a yearlong Perinatal Quality and Safety fellowship. The Fellowship will help participating individuals design, implement, evaluate, and disseminate a perinatal quality improvement project aimed at improving outcomes and reducing disparities at their site.

Individuals will be asked to come to the first fellowship meeting having identified a perinatal quality or safety issue(s) that is impacting their unit. Over the course of a year, participating individuals will attend monthly group meetings and/or individual support sessions which support them in developing and implementing a perinatal quality improvement project on their unit and fostering a quality infrastructure on their unit designed to continue to sustain for improvement after the fellowship is complete and identify opportunities for improvement in the future.

At the completion of the fellowship, Fellows will have gained foundational knowledge and experience to begin to support quality improvement and patient safety initiatives on their units. PQS fellows will be prepared to proactively assess for risk and identify opportunity for improvement so that future projects can be easily identified and actioned.

Monthly meeting topics and individualized support will include.

- Refining your QI question—What are you really trying to improve?
- Equity
- Finding and reviewing the evidence
- Developing your team: who are your key stakeholders?
- Engaging and motivating staff and leaders in your efforts
- Creating tables/graphs to visualize data more easily.
- Data analysis to measure improvement.
- Key components to implementation
- Mentorship in abstract and/or manuscript development for submission for presentation and/or publication
- The fellowship will be limited to 10 individuals. The fellowship will begin in September of 2023 and run through June 2024. In addition to working on developing and implementing their projects, fellows will have assigned core reading and participate in monthly discussions on quality and patient safety.

## Candidate Qualifications and Application Requirements

- Perinatal/neonatal professionals (nurse, provider, etc...) interested in quality and safety.
- Have support from your leader to dedicate time to developing and implementing a project.
- Only one fellow can attend per facility/organization per year.
- Have a topic or area related to perinatal/neonatal quality and safety that is either already identified through data or have been identified anecdotally. If you have identified an issue anecdotally you should be prepared to work towards using data to support your thoughts that a gap/opportunity exists.
- Be able to attend a 4 hour in person kick off session at the Maryland Patient Safety Center in September 2023.
- All other meetings will run 1-2 hours per month and will be virtual.
- Be willing to commit to focusing at a minimum 4 hours per month to the project. Outside of fellowship meetings, work will need to be done on the project outside of the meeting time for the project to be successful.

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### ❖ Virtual Info Session:

- Info Session: Perinatal and Neonatal Quality and Safety Fellowship
- Date: May 3rd
- Time: 12-1p
- Register Here:

### ❖ Application Materials

- Resume or CV
- Completed Application

### ❖ Application Timeline

- Application Due May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023
- Fellows notified by July 2023
- Fellowship to start September 2023

### ❖ Cost

- MPSC Members: **FREE**
  - Non-Members: \$1,000
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6820 Deerpath Road  
Elkridge, MD 21075



410.540.9210 (Phone)  
410.540.9139 (Fax)

## Perinatal Quality and Safety Fellowship *Application*

### Applicant Information

Full Name and Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in the perinatal/neonatal specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

### Leader/Sponsor Information

Full Name and Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe the quality/safety topic you have identified and hope to address during the fellowship:**

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**Please describe any clinical, professional, and academic experiences which you believe will have prepared you for this fellowship:**

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**Please attach additional documents if needed.**