Levels of Maternal Care: A Primer for MCH Programs

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Maternal Mortality Ratios in Selected Countries over the Past 30 Years

Hogan et al, Lancet 2010; 375: 1609–23
MATERNAL MORTALITY PER 100,000 LIVEBORN INFANTS

Source: NLWC from Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics 1999-2006
Severe Maternal Morbidity

Between 1998-1999 and 2008-2009 severe morbidity during delivery hospitalization increased ~75%

(7.4-12.9 per 1,000 deliveries)

Blood transfusions, acute renal failure, and aneurysms each more than doubled

Callaghan Obset Gynecol Nov 2012

Creanga, Journal of Women’s Health 2014
Risk Appropriate Perinatal care
Regionalized Perinatal Care
Since TIOP, the conceptual framework for regionalization of care of the woman and newborn has changed to focus almost entirely on the newborn.
Annual Birth Volume in U.S. Hospitals, 2008

n = 3,265

Simpson KR, JOGNN 40, 2011
Levels of Maternal Care (LOMC)

- Uniform designations of LOMC that are complimentary but distinct from levels of neonatal care

- First ever ACOG/SMFM guidance that establishes levels of care specific for the pregnant woman
  - An effort to ensure all birthing facilities “are tooled to take good care of moms”
  - Not about closing small hospitals, but about preparing them

OB Care Consensus #2. February 2015
Levels of Maternal Care (LOMC)

• Inclusivity demonstrates by:
  » Inclusion of Birth Centers
  » Additional endorsement and support from AABC, ACNM, AWHONN, Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers, AAP, ASA, SOAP

• Emphasizes role of Level III/IV (Regional) Centers to support education and quality improvement among their referring facilities
  » Building a culture of collaboration