Regional Perinatal Care

The Florida Experience
Phyllis Sloyer, RN, PhD
Performance Measure #17: % VLBW delivered at facilities for high-risk deliveries and neonates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Objective</strong></td>
<td>90</td>
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<td><strong>Annual Indicator</strong></td>
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<td>79.1</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>88.1</td>
<td>86.9</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numerator</strong></td>
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<td>2855</td>
<td>3105</td>
<td>3454</td>
<td>3365</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Denominator</strong></td>
<td>3331</td>
<td>3610</td>
<td>3589</td>
<td>3920</td>
<td>3874</td>
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</tbody>
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Data Measurement

- Data Source; Florida Department of Health Vital Records

- Numerator - Sum of:
  - All level III births < 1500 grams and;
  - All <500 grams births not at Level III or hospitals with NICUs and;
  - All 1000-1499 grams born at Level II

- Denominator
  - All births less than 1500 grams
Efforts to Reach 90% Goal

- Formal regionalization of NICUs in 1974
  - Law & rules addressing facility, personnel, transfer standards
  - Follow-up component to determine success of NICU care
- Expansion of Regional NICUs to Regional Perinatal Intensive Care Centers in late 1970’s
Efforts to Reach Goal (cont)

- High risk obstetrical care added in late 1970s
- Eleven Centers recognized
- Formal monitoring and peer review
- Today there are a total of 26 Level III facilities, however, only 11 Regional Perinatal Centers are recognized & reviewed
Efforts to Reach Goal (cont)

- High Risk Obstetrical Satellite Clinics added in 1991
  - Locations in facilities that are 75 miles or more from centers
  - 11 functioning clinics
  - Less than 30% of the patients should deliver at RPICC. We exceed our goal.
  - Less than 6% of the babies require Level III care
Efforts to Reach Goal (cont)

- Educational programs to community health providers
- Provision of transport for patients not covered by insurance
- Target hospitals that aren’t transferring low birth weight infants for in-service on linkages with RPI CCs
- Expand OB satellite clinics
Challenges

- 15 Level III hospitals that do not fall under quality assurance/improvement program authorized in state law
- Funding for OB satellite clinics
- Shortage of maternal-fetal medicine specialists
- Undocumented residents
- Social determinant issues (poverty, substance use, nutritional issues)
- Pre-term birth issues
New Approaches

- Perinatal quality improvement initiative
  - Focus on preterm births
  - The Big 5 initiative
- Improve reporting by using gestational age dating
Partnerships

- Medical leaders in neonatology, obstetrics
- Academic medical centers
- Florida Hospital Association
- Medicaid
- Insurance Company Representatives
- March of Dimes
- Healthy Start Coalitions