NEW YORK STATE OPIOID USE DISORDER IN PREGNANCY & NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME PROJECT

The New York State (NYS) Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) in Pregnancy & Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Project seeks to improve the identification and care of people with OUD during pregnancy, and improve the identification, standardization of therapy, and coordination of aftercare of infants with NAS.

Since 2010, the rate of opioid overdose deaths for females of reproductive age, 18 to 44 years old, has tripled in NYS, from 4.2 per 100,000, to 12.7 per 100,000 in 2016. Further, the rate of newborns with neonatal withdrawal symptoms and/or affected by maternal use of drugs of addiction was 9.6 cases per 1,000 live births in 2018.

In response, the New York State Department of Health's New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NYSPQC) led the **NYS OUD in Pregnancy & NAS Project.** The project's goal is to improve care for both birthing persons with OUD and infants with NAS. The project's pilot phase began in September 2018 with 14 participating birthing hospitals. In October 2020, following the success of the pilot phase, the project was expanded to include an additional 25 NYS birthing hospitals.

The NYSPQC hosts Learning Sessions that allow hospital teams the opportunity to: learn from faculty and colleagues; receive individual coaching from faculty members; gather new knowledge on the subject matter and process improvement; share experiences and collaborate on improvement plans; and develop strategies to overcome improvement barriers. In addition, monthly Coaching Call webinars are held to support teams in their work to test and implement improvements. During these webinars, data and progress to date are reviewed and time is provided for teams to share their experiences and lessons learned. Addressing bias and reducing stigma are prominent areas of focus. Through these educational opportunities and resource sharing, attendees learn about the challenges and barriers pregnant and parenting people who use drugs face due to stigma and how this stigma in turn increases the risk of overdose.

Goals and Strategies

Goals

By Spring 2023, the project seeks to:

- Increase the percent of pregnant people screened for substance use disorder (SUD) with a verbal screening tool by 20%.
- Increase the percent of pregnant people with OUD who are referred for treatment by 20%.
- Decrease the average hospital length of stay for newborns with NAS by 10%.

Strategies

- (1) Patient & family education
 - (2) Provider education
- (3) Identification of people with OUD
- (4) Optimization of medical care of pregnant people with OUD
- (5) Early and accurate identification of newborns with signs of NAS
- (6) Management of newborns using standardized NAS treatment protocol
 - (7) Multidisciplinary coordinated discharge planning











For more information:

Visit:

www.nyspqc.org

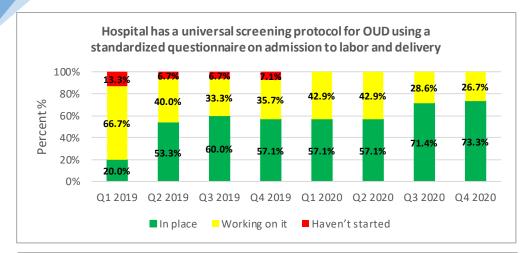
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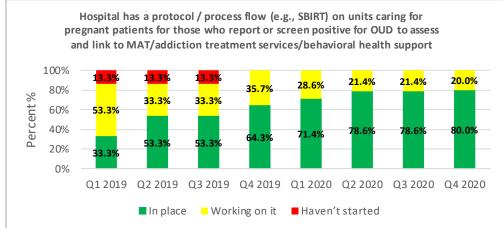
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Pilot Project Results



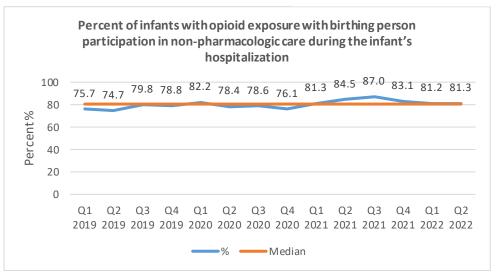


During the pilot phase of the NYS OUD in Pregnancy & NAS Project, between September 2018 and November 2020, the percentage of participating birthing hospitals with:

- A universal screening protocol for OUD increased by 238% from 21% in place to 71% in place; and
- A protocol or process flow to assess and link pregnant people with OUD to support services increased by 119%, from 36% in place to 79% in place.

By the end of the pilot phase, all hospitals put in place standardized pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic guidelines for newborns with opioid exposure.

The use of non-pharmacologic care of infants with NAS can decrease pharmacologic treatment, hospital length of stay, and costs. Prioritizing non-pharmacologic care involves family engagement. In the last six quarters of the project, there has been a sustainable shift in reported data indicating higher percentages of infants with opioid exposure whose birthing persons were engaging in non-pharmacologic care during their infant's hospitalization.



¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2016 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released December, 2017.

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² NYS Opioid Indicator Dashboard. 2022. New York State Opioid Data Dashboard. [online] Available at: https://webbi1.health.ny.gov/SASStoredProcess/guest? program=/EBI/PHIG/apps/opioid dashboard/op dashboard&p=st [Accessed 23 August 2022].