

## ALPQC Welcomes Our Newest Member!

We are thrilled to announce the arrival of a new member to our extended family! Caitlin & Robby Ballard and their dog, Rosie, welcomed a beautiful baby boy! Jack was born on 9/25/2024, weighing 8 lbs, 13 oz, and 22 inches long.

Both Jack and Caitlin are doing well, and we couldn't be happier for them. Let's all join in congratulating the Ballard family on their wonderful addition!



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Welcome Baby Jack! - Page 1
- 3rd Quarter Honor Roll - Page 2
- Neonatal News - Page 3
- Obstetric News - Page 3
- Neonatal Leadership Updates - Page 4
- New Resources - Page 5
- Upcoming Events - Page 5
- Reminders - Page 6

## ALPQC Honor Roll

### 3rd Quarter

The ALPQC has announced the 3rd quarter honor roll, which recognizes the outstanding efforts of the hospitals listed below. These institutions have demonstrated exceptional dedication to improving maternal and neonatal outcomes in Alabama. By completing 90% or more of the monthly and quarterly data reporting, participating in 1-on-1 monthly meetings with the QI-RN, and engaging in Action Period Calls, they have set a high standard for quality and commitment.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and hard work!

#### Neonatal Hypothermia Prevention

- Ascension St. Vincent's Birmingham
- Baptist Medical Center East
- Baptist Medical Center South
- Brookwood Baptist Medical Center
- DCH Northport Medical Center
- DCH Regional Medical Center
- East Alabama Medical Center
- Flowers Hospital
- Grandview Medical Center
- Huntsville Hospital for W&C
- Jackson Hospital
- Madison Hospital
- Marshall Medical Center North
- Marshall Medical Center South
- Russell Medical Center
- UAB Women & Infants Center
- USA Children's & Women's Hospital
- USA Health Providence

#### Obstetric Hemorrhage Initiative

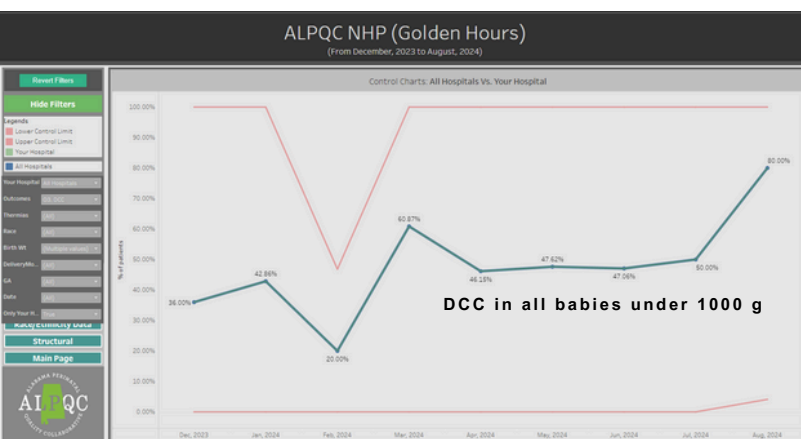
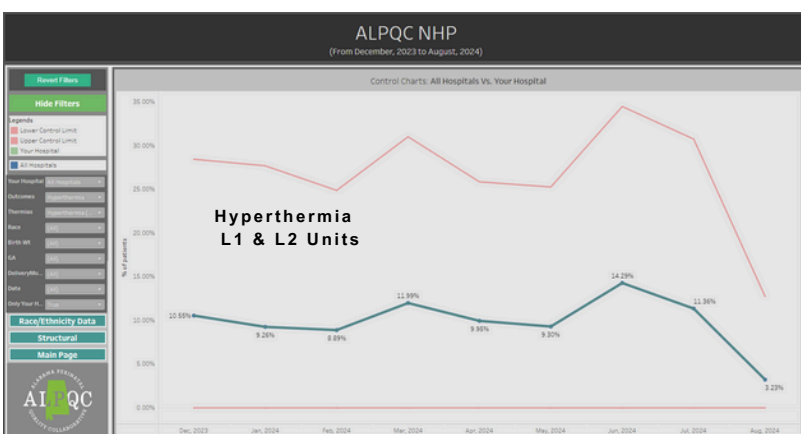
- Ascension St. Vincent's Birmingham
- Athens-Limestone Hospital
- Baptist Medical Center South
- Brookwood Baptist Medical Center
- DCH Northport Medical Center
- DCH Regional Medical Center
- East Alabama Medical Center
- Flowers Hospital
- Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children
- Madison Hospital
- Marshall Medical Center North
- Marshall Medical Center South
- Mobile Infirmary Medical Center
- North Baldwin Infirmary
- Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center
- Russell Medical Center
- Thomas Hospital
- UAB Women & Infants Center
- USA Children's & Women's Hospital
- USA Health Providence

## Neonatal Initiatives

Teams are making great progress on the Neonatal Hypothermia Prevention (NHP) Initiative, reducing hypothermia in newborns across the state. The Golden Hour project is also going well. Rates of delayed cord clamping (30-60 seconds) increased for babies under 1000 g, which is exciting!

Many L1 & L2 hospitals saw increases in rates of hyperthermia in the past quarter, in part due to discrepancies in axillary vs. rectal temperatures. Between July and August, this rate dramatically reduced, and we hope to continue learning more.

Most units have established or are working on developing unit policies. We have had many hospitals request examples. If your unit would be willing to share yours, please send them on over.



## Obstetric Initiatives

The Obstetric Hemorrhage Initiative is maintaining steady performance, with hemorrhage risk assessments, the use of QBL techniques, and patient support after hemorrhage events remaining consistent. Notably, there has been a significant decrease in severe maternal morbidity (SMM) among patients with OBH-related diagnoses. Hospitals have reported updates to their education and protocols, and these improvements are expected to be reflected in their data in the coming months.

Measures	Vaginal - July 2024	Vaginal - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	Cesarean - July 2024	Cesarean - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
P1. Hemorrhage Risk Assessment	88.73%	89.82%	85.48%	88.95%
P2. Quantified Blood Loss	90.14%	85.84%	96.77%	92.27%
P3. Patient Support After Obstetric Hemorrhage	42.25%	38.94%	38.71%	39.23%
P4. PPH Protocol	59.15%	65.04%	58.06%	66.85%
P5. Transfusions	26.76%	29.65%	27.42%	43.09%
L&D	12.68%	15.49%	12.90%	26.52%
MBU	14.08%	13.72%	12.90%	15.47%
ICU	0%	0.44%	1.61%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%	1.10%

### SMM

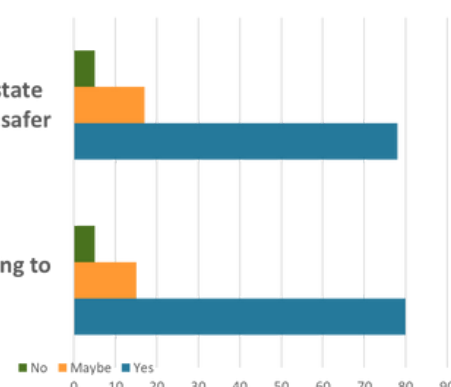
July 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

O1. SMM (Total Deliveries)	1.06%	1.04%
O2. SMM Among Patients with an ICD-10 Diagnosis Related to Obstetric Hemorrhage	4.39%	10.10%

The postpartum bracelet pilot is progressing well, with the majority of patients indicating they plan to continue wearing the bracelets. Many have reported that the bracelets make them feel safer in the event of a medical emergency.

Percentage of patients who state the bracelets make them feel safer

Percentage of patients planning to wear the bracelets





We are very sad but also very proud to announce that Dr. Sam Gentle, our long-time Neonatal Physician Lead, has taken a position with Yale University's School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor.

Dr. Gentle has been with the ALPQC since the beginning. He championed the Birth Certificate Accuracy Project and went on to lead the development of the Newborn Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome, NHP, and Golden Hour initiative change packages. Dr. Gentle made a point to include maternal measures in the NOWS project as a means of maintaining the dyad and empowering families in infant care.

Dr. Gentle has been an invaluable QI guide, clinical resource, and all-around great leader. We are going to miss his sense of humor and awesome skills as drummer in his band, The Kensingtons. We wish Dr. Gentle and his family the best of luck in their New England adventure! Enjoy the snow!



THANK  
YOU!

Welcome!



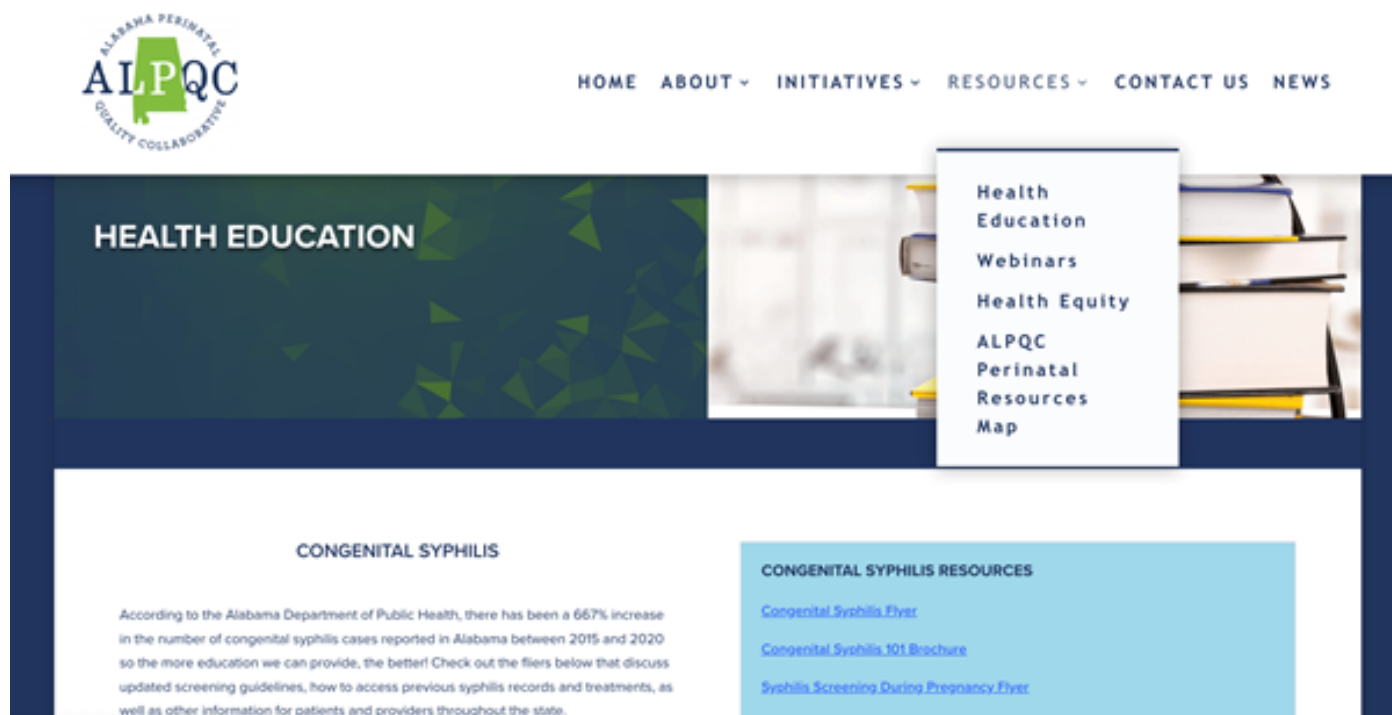
We are pleased to announce our new Neonatal Lead, Dr. Kelechi Ikeri! Dr. Ikeri is the QI Director in the Division of Neonatology at the University of South Alabama Children & Women's Hospital.

Dr. Ikeri is a certified improvement Coach, earning the title after completing the Institute for Health Improvement's Professional Development Program. Dr. Ikeri's past initiatives include developing a program using loaner breast pumps to promote equitable access to infant nutrition.

Dr. Ikeri's past research has included improving the timeliness and quality of NICU newborn screenings, and ensuring that results are quickly returned to units to optimize care, and facilitating family-centered practices for newborns as a part of the hospital discharge process. We are so excited to have Dr. Ikeri on board to provide his QI expertise in our initiatives!

## New Resources Available at ALPQC.ORG

Our 'Health Education' page has moved to a new tab! Visit the 'Resources' tab to access our Health Education resources at [www.alpqc.org/resources/health-education/](http://www.alpqc.org/resources/health-education/).



## Upcoming Events

**October 23 | 2 pm CT - CDC - Health Equity in Emergency Preparedness and Response**

When preparing and responding to emergencies, it is crucial to embed health equity from the start to ensure that all people have equal access to life-saving information, services, and programs. Join CDC's Office of Health Equity (OHE) and our partners to learn about the importance of health equity in emergency response and preparedness. OHE and CDC's Office of Readiness and Response will present on its emergency response work, including the establishment of the Chief Health Equity Officer (CHEO) unit in CDC emergency responses. Additional presenters include subject matter experts from Choose Healthy Life, Southern Plains Tribal Health Board, and National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS). Click [here](#) to register.



## Share your Success!



Hospital shares are an excellent way to share successes you have experienced or struggles you might be facing when it comes to ALPQC's initiatives! They are a great way to foster collaboration and teamwork between all of our facilities and open up great discussion that benefit all teams! Please email [info@alpqc.org](mailto:info@alpqc.org) to sign your team up for a Hospital Share on one of our upcoming Action Period Calls. We look forward to hearing from everyone!

## REMINDERS

October 16th - Obstetric Action Period Call, 1pm

October 23rd- Neonatal Action Period Call, 12pm

October 31st- Neonatal Hypothermia & Obstetric Hemorrhage Monthly & Quarterly Data Due (Sept, July-Sept)

October 31st -NOWS & HTN Sustainability Data Due (July-Sept)

November 20th- OB & Neonatal Action Period Call, 12pm

November 30th- Neonatal Hypothermia & Obstetric Hemorrhage Monthly Data Due (Oct)

November 28-29 - ALPQC Office Closed

December - No Action Period Calls

December 24-25 - ALPQC Office Closed

December 31st- Neonatal Hypothermia & Obstetric Hemorrhage Monthly Data Due (Nov)

December 31 - January 1 - ALPQC Office Closed

