



Texas Perinatal Services NEWSLETTER

A Program of the Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation

March 2019

Meet More of Our Exceptional Texas Surveyors

This month marks one year since Texas' maternal levels of care designation rules went into effect. Since then, our survey teams have been across the state conducting hospital maternal verification surveys. So what observations and insights can they share from these experiences? We recently caught up with two of our exceptional surveyors, who shared details on the survey process itself, common potential deficiencies they've seen thus far, the approach Texas Perinatal Services takes to surveys, and why TPS is best equipped to conduct these surveys.

Read what [Dr. Nathan Drever](#) and [Dr. Kathleen Rasmussen](#) have to say.



Dr. Drever



Dr. Rasmussen

Registration Open for Texas

AWHONN Conference

Texas Perinatal Services is honored to sponsor this year's [Texas AWHONN Conference](#), set for May 16-18 in Frisco, Texas. TPS is the designated approved provider of continuing nursing credits for conference attendees.

The conference is a great opportunity to learn about the latest in evidence-based approaches to achieve the highest quality patient outcomes. Conference topics include maternal mortality and morbidity, postpartum hemorrhage and depression, S.A.N.E. Nursing, essential oils, and MEWS. Pre-conference sessions include an advanced fetal monitoring course and breastfeeding management. All breakout sessions include topics for the L&D, mother/baby, nursery/neonatal, antepartum and advanced practice registered nurses.

[The conference](#) will be held at the Embassy Suites Frisco Hotel Convention Center and Spa. For information on nursing student scholarships, contact [Shelley White-Corey](#). Information on posters and abstracts is available [here](#).

Let's Celebrate Nurses in May! #NursesWeek

National Nurses Week is just around the corner, May 6-12. As in past years, this annual spotlight on nurses coincides with Florence Nightingale's birthday on May 12.

National Nurses Day was first celebrated in 1954, the 100th anniversary of Nightingale's famous mission to the Crimea. But it wasn't until 1982 that President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation that May 6 would henceforth be National Nurses Day and the annual celebration of nurses' efforts would be nationally recognized. The American Nurses Association offers access to logos, promotional materials and a free toolkit to help hospitals promote the week. You can access them and more information [here](#).



Perinatal Forums Get High Marks; New Dates Coming

Thanks to all the Texas Perinatal Services customers who provided feedback on our first two live Perinatal Forums. We were thrilled with the marks – 100 percent rated the Forum topics and presentations excellent, the login process easy and the Forum length good. Based on your input, we plan to offer future Forums on a monthly basis. Tentative upcoming dates and topics are:

March 26: Dr. Nathan Drever -- Questions for a Surveyor

April 23: Lauren Montgomery -- Tips from a Level II Program Manager

Watch your email for calendar invitations from Program Director Carla Rider.

And remember, in addition to the Forums, Texas Perinatal Services-contracted hospitals have exclusive access to a virtual library of tools to help prepare for and navigate the survey process. Our Virtual Training Manual contains numerous modules built around the most frequent questions from Texas hospitals, and continues to grow regularly. If you are a contracted hospital and need a link to the library, please contact [TPS](#) and bookmark the page.

Postpartum Toolkit Now Available

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, one-fourth of pregnant and postpartum women experience some level of perinatal depression. Texas Health and Human Services recently published a postpartum toolkit as a resource to clinicians in screening, diagnosis and treatment of postpartum depression. To download it, visit our [Resources page](#) where you also can find [numerous other resources](#) on maternal and NICU care.

Have Questions? We Have Answers

If you are like a lot of hospitals we hear from, you have at least a few questions

about specifics around the new maternal designation rules. And we are happy to get you the answers you need.

Our role is much more than simply conducting perinatal surveys. We provide ongoing resources to you before and after your survey. We do not interpret the rules, but rather serve as a conduit of accurate, unbiased information between the state and hospitals. To that end, we have added a Frequently Asked Questions page on our website to share commonly asked questions and the answers we've received from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

If you have questions, take a look at our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#). If you don't find the answers you need, please [email us](#) and we will research and publish the state's response.

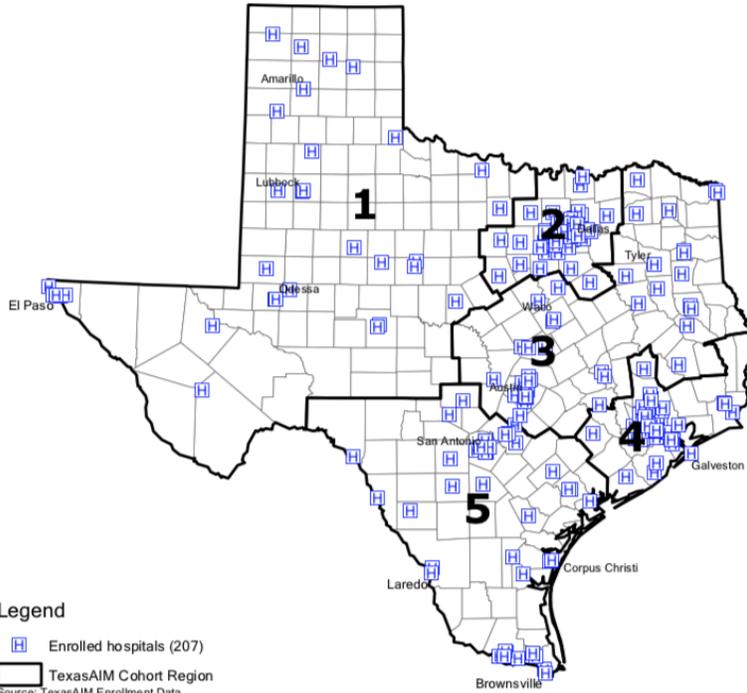
The AIM Initiative in Texas

The Texas AIM Initiative was launched one year ago - March 2018 – to improve maternal mortality and morbidity outcomes. AIM, or the Alliance for the Innovation on Maternal Health, is a national program that helps hospitals, medical staffs and communities use evidence-based practices to improve maternal safety and healthcare quality through the use of Maternal Safety Bundles.

To date, 207 Texas hospitals have signed on to participate in the voluntary program, the learnings from which can be an asset as they navigate the maternal designation process. “As hospitals work toward the maternal levels of care designation, AIM Maternal Safety Bundles are an opportunity to meet designation requirements,” noted Texas Department of State Health Services Commission John Hellerstedt, M.D.

Texas Perinatal Services provides numerous resources to hospitals about the AIM Initiative, including recent eModules on the '4 R' domains of each safety bundle. Visit our [Resources page](#) for links.

TexasAIM Current Hospitals as of January 23, 2019
By TexasAIM Cohort Region



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