



AWHONN

PROMOTING THE HEALTH OF
WOMEN AND NEWBORNS

COLORADO AWHONN

SECTION NEWSLETTER

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VACANT

AWHONN

Mission:

Promote the health of
women and newborns

AWHONN National

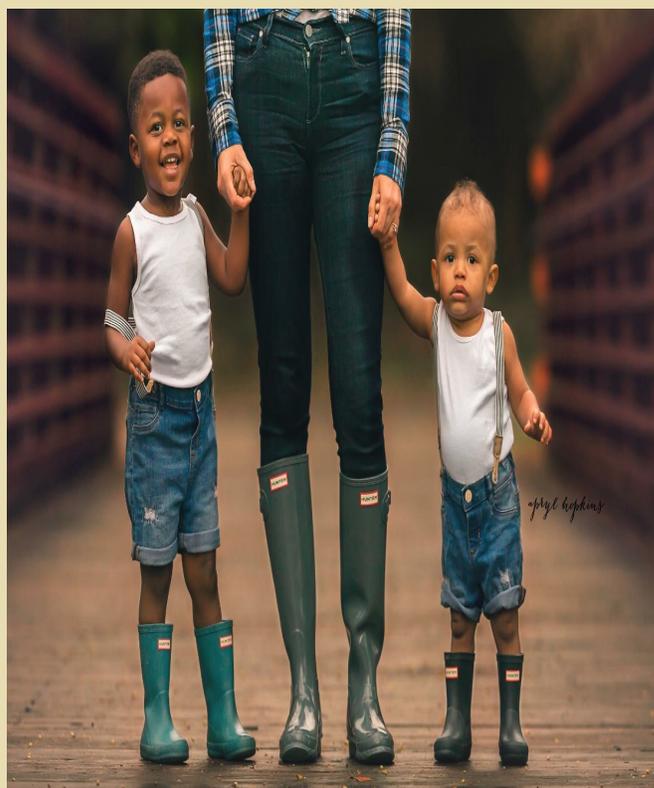
Goals:

Public visibility
Knowledge transfer
Build membership

CO AWHONN

Goals:

Promote member
engagement through
partnerships



Section Chair Report

Hello CO AWHONN Members!!

Happy Summer!!! It is hard to believe July has already arrived. If you are like me, summer seems to go so much faster than any other season so I try to enjoy every minute of sunshine and warmth. One of my summer highlights is attending the AWHONN National Convention. This year's event was in Tampa, FL where it was definitely hot & humid. The conference did not disappoint---there were great speakers, inspirational posters, and plenty of time to be together with so many other nurses who share the same passion for maternal-newborn nursing. It was so great to have more than 20 Coloradans gather in Tampa for some fun in the sun.

Here are a few of my favorite highlights from the convention:

- Kathleen Rice Simpson provided a great overview on “hot topics” and directed us to some important resources with current evidence:

- ACOG/SMFM have a joint statement on Reducing Primary C-Sections---a good resource when discussing this topic with our physician colleagues

- In 2017, MCN published a helpful article on the practice of “Vaginal Seeding of Babies Born via Cesarean” and discussed the CDC reports of newborn infection related to this practice

- In 2018, MCN also published an article entitled “Placentaophagy: What Nurse’s Should Know.”

- Another helpful presentation was on the topic of preeclampsia screening and management in the ED. The speaker directed us to the FREE CMQCC Preeclampsia Toolkit, available on line and includes an ED management algorithm for this patient population

- I heard an innovative project from Yale on a “labor walking path” within the hospital. This walking path includes a hospital scavenger hunt throughout the halls, includes drinking fountain and bathroom stops and take about 90 minutes to complete---perfect length of time for a “rule-out labor check.” Reducing primary C-Section rates is an important topic and I am glad to be a part of a Colorado collaborative to address this issue.

- The Eat-Sleep-Console tool presentation was encouraging and made me realize our hard work in Colorado on the topic of Substance Exposed Newborns is worth it!!

- The presentation on pulmonary hypertension was AMAZING—and if you asked me today, I think I could explain the pathology of this disease process based on what I learned at the convention

- And, of course, Lisa Miller’s presentation was entertaining, practical and full of helpful tips. We are so fortunate to have her speaking in Grand Junction in August!!! I hope to see many of you at this event.

I also came away with a few new favorite quotes---I hope you like them as well:

- The new “definition of PDSA: Please Do Something, Anything!!”

- If you are not at the table, you are on the menu

- Are you working “to, for or with” the person/people you are assisting?

- And when calling the provider to evaluate a fetal tracing, try saying, “the fetus has requested your presence at the bedside”

Next year you won’t want to miss the national convention. AWHONN will be celebrating 50 years, and the event in Atlanta promises to be fantastic. Our state conference in April will be held in Colorado Springs and also promises to be amazing—more information on specific location and date coming soon.

Hope you all take time to enjoy the remaining summer. Soak in the sun, go for a hike and enjoy summer in our great state.

Amy Dempsey

CO AWHONN Section Chair



Secretary/Treasurer Update



Hello, Colorado AWHONN members! Welcome to Summer!

We are fresh from the AWHONN national convention in Tampa. Several CO AHWONN members were also in attendance at this year's event. CO AWHONN hosted a reception for our Colorado members at The Sail, which was located right along the waterfront. We enjoyed a variety of local favorite appetizers and networking. Cost for this reception was \$200.

We are still awaiting final word from our national offices regarding financial specifics from our 2018 state conference in April. My best estimate is we will have approximately \$1000-1300 surplus from 2018 conference, which we will use for next year's deposit. I will share with you further details once I hear back from our national offices.

Recently, AWHONN national changed the reimbursement structure for sections surrounding membership. A brief background on this, CO AWHONN section receives a portion of the dues each member pays for their AWHONN membership. AWHONN national sends our chapter these funds on a quarterly basis. These funds are then utilized for our section events. We are seeing about \$300 additional dollars with each membership dues check from national because of this change in the reimbursement structure.

Second quarter financials are due June 15, 2018. I am currently in the process of completing the required paperwork for submission. Q2 contains all financial records from our 2018 conference. This will expedite our hearing back from national on the final financial outcome of our 2018 conference. More to come!

A reminder that both our Western Slope and Southern chapters have events happening soon. Refer to our Facebook or further in your newsletter for details.

Rachelle Woods MSN, RN

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Legislative Happenings



The 2018 legislative session ended on May 10th. AWHONN had two bills we were officially supporting. The first was the FAMLI bill (HB18-1001) this bill creates the family and medical leave insurance (FAMLI) program, a “paid leave” benefit for every working Coloradan. Similar to the way unemployment benefits work every worker would contribute to the fund and all Colorado workers would have the ability to draw from the fund in the case of maternity leave, sick leave or leave to care for a sick parent or child. (Bill information: <http://coloradocapitolwatch.com/bill/1/HB18-1001/2018/0/>). This bill did not pass the Senate committee and failed on a party line vote.

The second is the Infant Newborn Screening (HB18-1006) This bill updates the current newborn screening program to require timelier newborn hearing screenings. The department of public health and environment is authorized to assess a fee for newborn screening and necessary follow-up services. The bill creates the newborn hearing screening cash fund for covering the costs of the program. It mandates that the state laboratory to run 6 out of 7 days every week of the year for more timely blood spot screening. (Bill information: <http://coloradocapitolwatch.com/bill/1/HB18-1006/2018/0/>). This bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by Governor Hickenlooper on June 6th.

All state bills supported by AWHONN must be approved by public policy at national and typically align with our public policy agenda for the year. Please see this year’s public policy agenda here https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.awhonn.org/resource/resmgr/engage/2018_Legislative_Agenda_FINA.pdf.

We have an open position for a legislative coordinator. Please e- mail Izzi at Isabelle.Campanella@uchealth.org if you would like more information.

We are delighted to welcome Mic Zywiec as our newest Legislative Coordinator! Mic is the director at the Family Birthplace at Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs. We are currently recruiting a second legislative coordinator for anyone that might be interested.

Membership Matters

The Problem with AWHONN membership

And yes, there is a problem...for me it is this:

I know too much. I go to conferences. I learn how to improve health for women and newborns. And I want to do it all. Right now.

- Like properly administering Pitocin post delivery.
- Or using evidence-based practices to ensure early recognition of hemorrhage.
- Or avoiding C-sections by promoting vaginal birth.
- Or if that C-Section must happen, promoting skin-to-skin time in the OR.
- Or keeping moms and babies together by using research to evaluate protocols that keep them apart.

Yes, AWHONN makes it easy for me to learn of the latest studies and compelling evidence for practice improvements. So easy, in fact, that I want to make them all a reality for my own patients. And soon.

But here's the problem:

Not all my co-workers hear the same AWHONN messages I do. They somehow think AWHONN membership is not necessary. They do not hear the rationales for all the new projects that those of us in AWHONN want to bring to our own practice settings.

So, here's the solution:

We need to get all RNs in our practice area on board. Let's all hear about Research and Best Practices and innovative solutions to common issues.

Let's all become AWHONN members...that will solve the problem with AWHONN membership.

Know someone who needs to join AWHONN?

1. Encourage him/her to visit the "[Become a Member](#)" section of [the website](#) for additional and detailed information about all of AWHONN's great membership levels and benefits.

2. Give this friend a membership application. Be sure to fill in your own Member name and ID # first. Application ready to print at:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.awhonn.org/resource/resmgr/Membership/2018_Member_App.pdf

3.Or this link will walk her/him through the online membership application procedure.

<https://www.awhonn.org/page/AWHONNMembership?>



Nicole Downs, BSN, RNC-OB

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Communications Coordinator

Hello AWHONN Members,

I hope your summer has been full of adventure and learning! Colorado AWHONN has been very busy with the AWHONN State conference in April and then AWHONN National Convention in June. I hope you were able to connect with us at one (or perhaps both?) of these amazing conferences.

This year has been outstanding with all of the educational and networking opportunities AWHONN has provided all over the state. If you're looking to get involved, and hear a wonderful presentation our next AWHONN hosted event is on August 17th where the one and only Lisa Miller will be speaking in Grand Junction at Saint Mary's Hospital. If you have not heard Lisa speak, then you really should make it a priority to come. In between the two sessions there will be ample time for connecting to other AWHONN members from all around the state and if you'd like to make a weekend out of it Grand Junction is beautiful in the summer with many outdoor activities to partake in.

I am always excited to hear from you especially if you have an idea for a topic or presentation in your area. I enjoy connecting AWHONN members with one another. We truly have amazing nurses and advocates for women and neonates all around Colorado, and it is always a blast to connect with someone new.

I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming AWHONN event!

Rainy Tieman DNP, MSN/Ed, RNC-MNN, RNC-OB, C-EFM

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Evidence-Based Practice

Amber Lippincott MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM
AmberLippincott@centura.org

How exciting!

Hello everyone,

In May I attended the 23rd Annual High Risk & Critical Care Obstetrics in New Orleans and what an amazing learning experience I had at this conference!

What were some of the Topics at the conference...

Diabetes & DKA: Fox described the differences with Diabetic Ketoacidosis, Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State and Hypoglycemia and how to formulate a plan for these patients. Some of the take home messages is:

- Treat the primary/underlying issue with the mother to help the fetus.
- Tremendously elevated levels of glucose are dangerous so watch for signs and symptoms and treat early

Postpartum Hemorrhage: Dildy discussed PPH guidelines, how to use tranexamic acid, and usages of a massive transfusion protocol. He also talked about some of the most common mistakes made during a PPH such as underestimating blood loss, not paying attention to vital signs, and delay of procedures and blood products.

Vasopressor Therapy: Frady spoke on when you should use vasopressors during pregnancy and the purpose, actions and impact on patient outcomes. One of the take home messages is to not reach for vasopressor first but provide fluids and volume to support perfusion.

Last EBP Newsletter we reviewed...

Last time we looked at doing the improvement from your project and how you must stay on task, educate, evaluate, and examine your outcomes to keep your EBP project going.

Next, Keep Evaluating

Evaluation: Did your project work well, what did you learn, and what did you need to adapt and support your new process improvement? What I have learned from projects, improvements, and EBP is that you must continue to touch base with your audience so that you find the gaps in knowledge or the process. New projects do not run perfectly as soon as the procedures or education has been put into place so you need to continue to check on the progress to support the change.

What current information have you changed in your practice?

- Does your hospital use AWHONN Maternal Fetal Triage with the Maternal Acuity scale to help determine how quickly the patient needs to be seen?
- How about Newborn Sepsis calculator?



Share with us what process you have implemented and we will share it with our readers. 7

Northern Chapter

We would like to welcome Samantha (Sam) Smeak as our new Colorado AWHONN Northern Chapter coordinator.

Welcome Sam!!



Denver Chapter

I am excited to be taking on the role of Denver Chapter Coordinator. As a clinical nurse educator I often cross paths with interesting speakers and get to work on innovative nursing practices. This role will allow me to share that knowledge with our membership in the Denver Metro area.

Our first event will be an informal roundtable cocktail hour. The topic will be Marijuana and Breastfeeding- a Comparison of Clinical Practice in the Metro area. This evening event will allow us to talk about how each of our practice areas are tackling this subject. Are you helping form policy at your institution? Please share that with us. Are you at the bedside answering the hard questions? Maybe we can help with some resources. Are you a clinic nurse and not sure what the hospitals are doing? Let's talk. The meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Wed September 12th at 3864 Winona Ct Denver 80212.

Please RSVP to me at Isabelle.Campanella@uchealth.org

I hope to see you there!

Isabelle Campanella

Isabelle.Campanella@uchealth.org

303-718-0395



Western Slope Chapter



Hello Western Slope AWHONN Members,

Lisa Miller will be here next month! I still have space in the morning and afternoon session so please RSVP today (see next page for flyer)!

We will have our western slope chapter AWHONN meeting in between sessions (11:15-12:00) and lunch will be provided. This will be very informal and a time to meet new AWHONN members or catch up with old friends.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or need help signing up. I look forward to seeing you there!

Rainy Tieman DNP, MSN/Ed, RNC-MNN, RNC-OB, C-EFM

Western Slope Chapter

Doctor's and Nurses, and Lawyers, Oh My!!

Liability & Risk Management in Perinatal Care

Presented by: Lisa Miller CNM, JD

Friday

August 17, 2018

Two Sessions Available:

8am- 11:15am OR 12pm-3:15pm

Saint Mary's Hospital and Medical Center
Saccomanno Education Center, 5th Floor

Limited Space Available

Register Today!

https://stmarysgj_lisa_miller2018.eventbrite.com

Early Bird Rate \$50- by July 5th

Regular Rate \$75- after July 5th

AWHONN Member Rate \$25



Learning Objectives:

- Identify common liability issues in perinatal care
- Review typical allegations in perinatal malpractice litigation and describe appropriate risk reduction strategies
- Describe and discuss the relationship between documentation and deposition

CEU/CME Available

Questions, contact Rainy Tieman at

Rainy.Tieman@sclhs.net



Southern Chapter

Hello Southern Chapter AWHONN Members!

The Southern Colorado Chapter of AWHONN held its annual meeting on Monday July 9th at Fire Station #20 on the north end of town. We were honored this year to have a speaker from Ft. Carson Army Base.

MAJ Christie Lang, DNP, CNS, RNC-OB gave a great lecture on her doctoral project “Initiative to Reduce Perineal Laceration During Childbirth”. MAJ Lang referenced AHRQ’s Perinatal Safety Initiatives #18 and #19: OB



Trauma Vaginal Delivery with Instrument and OB
Trauma Vaginal Delivery without Instrument. She described implementing a “Safe Passages” program with things that the patients, nurses and providers can all do prenatally, during labor and at the time of delivery to decrease the likelihood of a perineal laceration.

The 23 attendees all gave great feedback on the

presentation, got updates on the AWHONN and ACOG happenings around the state and had some time for socializing and networking.

I hope you are all having a great summer and I look forward to connecting with you again in the future!

Candace Garko, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM

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Colorado AWHONN Conference 2018!



COAWHONN Poster Presentations!

Integration of Preconception Care into Primary Care

DNP Quality Improvement Project

Mary Claire Wahl, MSN, CNM
University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Background: Preconception care (PCC) is a critical component of reproductive health. It involves providing education and counseling to women of reproductive age to optimize their health before becoming pregnant. This poster describes a DNP quality improvement project aimed at integrating PCC into primary care settings.

Methods: The project involved a literature review, stakeholder interviews, and the development of educational materials and protocols for primary care providers. A pilot program was implemented in a primary care clinic.

Results: The project resulted in increased provider knowledge and confidence in providing PCC. There was also an increase in the number of women receiving PCC during their primary care visits.

Conclusions: Integrating PCC into primary care is a feasible and effective strategy to improve reproductive health outcomes. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term impact of this intervention.

Preparing for Baby Friendly Designation with Innovative Education Methods

Andrea Bremer, MSN, RN-OB, C-EFM
Clinical Nurse Educator
University of Colorado Hospital
Women's Care Center at University of Colorado Hospital

Sarah Compton, MSN, RN-OB, C-EFM
Clinical Nurse Educator
University of Colorado
Birth Center, Women & Infant Services

Background: Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a global program that provides recognition to hospitals that provide all mothers with education and breastfeeding efforts and sustains breastfeeding efforts and educates mothers on safe formula feeding practices. University of Colorado Hospital began their journey to BFHI in 2013. In preparation for our BFHI visit all nurses have completed 20 hours of breastfeeding education. Our site visit will occur in May 2016. Over time retention of key concepts diminishes and there was a need for refresher for key points to prepare for the site visit.

Purpose: The purpose of this project was to prepare the nursing staff on the Labor and Mom/Baby units for our baby friendly designation visit using a reduction method that would engage learners and reinforce it in the project.

Methods: Surveys were conducted to determine knowledge gaps in key baby friendly assessment areas based on staff interview audits. An educational activity was designed to review these gaps and reinforce knowledge. A pretest was given to assess current knowledge prior to the educational activity. The educators of the Labor and Mom/Baby units created an escape room format to reinforce key concepts from the identified knowledge gaps as a team. This activity created a scenario of a zombie apocalypse that required new mothers to successfully breastfeed to prevent neonatal transmission of the zombie virus. A posttest assessed knowledge following the activity.

Results: Post test results were evaluated from three key baby friendly assessment areas. When discussing benefits of rooming in learners correctly answered 57% Pre/ 84% Post, an increase of 27%. When discussing benefits to hand expression learners correctly answered 45% Pre/ 79% Post, an increase of 34%. When discussing reasons not to use artificial nipples learners correctly answered 35% Pre/ 66% Post, an increase of 31%.

Becoming Baby-Friendly: Insights and Significant Outcomes

Amber Lippincott MSN, RN-OB, C-EFM & Kristen Taylor BSN, RNC-MNN
St. Francis Medical Center

Introduction: The goal was to address The Healthy People 2020 goal of increasing breastfeeding initiation and duration. This poster reports on the insights and significant outcomes of the 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding' program implemented at St. Francis Medical Center.

Results: The program resulted in a significant increase in breastfeeding initiation and duration. There was also a decrease in cesarean section rates and an increase in vaginal birth rates.

Discussion and Conclusions for Practice: The program was successful in achieving its goals. Key factors for success included staff education, patient education, and a supportive environment. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term impact of this program.

Taking Time to Remember: A Perinatal Loss Remembrance Service

Sarah Koeneke, BSN, RN-OB, C-EFM, Kyrin Credney, MS, RN-OB, C-EFM
Denver, Colorado

Introduction: A perinatal loss is an often teaching facility averaging 77 births per year. The loss of a fetus or newborn is a traumatic event for many families. This poster describes a perinatal loss remembrance service designed to provide support and healing for these families.

Design: The service was designed to be a quiet, reflective time for families to remember their babies. It included a candle lighting ceremony, a prayer, and a reflection on the baby's life.

Conclusion: The service was well-received by families and provided a meaningful opportunity to remember their babies. It was a valuable addition to the hospital's bereavement services.

Splash Splash Swaddle Bath (Delayed Swaddle Immersion Bath)

Presented by Edna Sailer, MSN, RN-OB, C-EFM Women's Care Unit-Poudre Valley Hospital-Fort Collins, CO

Purpose: Determine if a delayed swaddle immersion versus sponge bathed newborns cry less, improve parent satisfaction, as well as decrease steps and time for staff.

Method-Metrics: The LEAN process was employed for evaluating the current state of the sponge bath and the target state of delayed swaddle immersion bath on the postpartum unit. The metrics of time, steps, and crying were selected. Patient educators were targeted to improve the patient experience by offering the swaddle immersion bath and the reduction of 'crying' of newborns. To support the staff the LEAN process of a spaghetti diagram was selected to collect staff 'steps' on the baseline data points. The metric of 'time' was also selected to evaluate the impact on staff and steps to conduct a bath. Comparison of time in minutes of sponge and swaddle immersion bath provides a data point for staff regarding their time investment.

Results: The observations and results achieved during this project correlate with what other studies have established regarding the swaddle immersion bath. Staff who observed a reduction in crying time were more confident in their skills, increased efficiency for staff and steps to conduct a bath. The improvement observed was demonstrated by the decrease in time and steps to conduct a bath. The target state outcome for the delayed swaddle immersion bath resulted in a decrease of time, steps and crying compared to the sponge bath.

Implications for Practice: This quality improvement illustrated the benefits of implementing an innovative evidenced based practice of the delayed swaddle immersion bath for the newborn. Swaddle immersion bathing is a delightful for parents, promotes bonding with their newborn, supports breastfeeding, improves newborn temperature stability and is calming for the newborn. It is recommended to implement it in the clinical setting. The target audience is Maternal/Childcare nurses. Evidence of shows there is a gap noted in knowledge skills and practice of these caregivers that validates the need for this learning activity. The observed benefits in the delayed swaddle immersion bath are motivating for staff to embrace the practice by offering this research based, developmentally supportive care for the term newborn patient population.

Because the Bleeding Must Stop: Standardized Titration of Oxytocin Post-Delivery

Nicole Downs, BSN, RN-OB, Marka Pugh, BSN, RN-OB, C-EFM
University of Colorado Hospital

Background and Purpose: Postpartum hemorrhage is the leading preventable cause of maternal mortality. The purpose of this project was to reduce the rate of postpartum hemorrhage by following an effective titration method of oxytocin administration.

Results: The standardized titration of oxytocin resulted in a significant decrease in postpartum hemorrhage rates. There was also an increase in the use of IV titration for oxytocin administration.

Implications for Practice: The project demonstrated the importance of standardized titration of oxytocin in reducing postpartum hemorrhage. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term impact of this intervention.

Evaluation of risk factors that contribute to falls in the inpatient obstetrical population

Andrea Bremer, MSN, RN-OB, C-EFM
Women's Care Center at University of Colorado Hospital
Medical Center First Unit at Children's Hospital Colorado

Purpose: Our body of knowledge lacks evidence related to fall prevention interventions and identification of risk factors for inpatient obstetrical patients. No fall risk assessment tool exists for the inpatient obstetrical patient. When assessing our institutional obstetrical falls, 65% of patients who fell were rated as low risk prior to their fall using the institutional current fall risk assessment tool.

Method: The charts of 52 patients who fell over a 5 year period were retrospectively reviewed and evaluated for factors that contributed to their falls.

Implications for practice: Our findings indicate that the population most at risk for falling is patients that give birth vaginally and less than 8 hours has passed since their birth. Targeted efforts for reducing inpatient obstetrical falls should focus on assessment of readiness for inpatient obstetrical birth. Our intent for the future is to develop and test a population specific fall risk assessment tool and interventions based on identified risk factors.

An alternative in Pain Management: Nitrous Oxide for the laboring and Immediate post partum patient

Nicky Barber BSN, RN-OB, C-EFM, CLC

Purpose: By providing inhaled Nitrous Oxide we hope to see a decrease in epidural and IV narcotic rates. The literature has proven Nitrous Oxide labor analgesia does not cause epidural or adverse outcomes for the mother, fetus, or neonate (Cohen, 2010). It is considered the literature also supports that it is safe for the individuals caring for the woman in labor that chooses the option of pain control. However, opioid administration, such as fentanyl, is associated with a variety of maternal and fetal adverse effects, including nausea, sedation, fetal heart rate abnormalities, and neonatal fall. Significant effects, including neurobehavioral findings and difficulty with initiation of breastfeeding (Boob, L 2016).

Method: The tools that were used to obtain the data were Uthalt North's Medical Center at the Rockies Poudre Valley Hospital electronic medical record, EPC, Pavis records for IV fentanyl usage, epidural billing forms, as well as a Nitrous Oxide report from EPC that shows usage of Nitrous Oxide. The measured timeframe of epidural rates and IV fentanyl usage were three months prior to the Nitrous Oxide group to three months after that date. A total of 6 months of data were collected starting November 1st, 2016 and ending April 30th, 2017.

Results/Outcomes: By implementing this alternative to pain management our service line has seen a significant decrease in fentanyl rates by 17.25%. Although there was not a significant decrease in epidural rates, a total of 1.23%, continuing to offer this alternative to pain management is a great option to our laboring patient population, as a total of 25.1% of our delivered population chose this one of their pain management options during the course of their labor.

CO AWHONN in Tampa!



Save the Date!

Presented in Partnership with: ACOG • ACNM • AWHONN • CAFP

COLORADO



5th Annual Harvey Cohen, MD

Maternal Morbidity & Mortality Symposium

Thursday

October 25, 2018

8am-6:30pm

CU Denver South

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

www.acogmmm2018.eventbrite.com

CU Denver South

(formerly The Wildlife Experience)

10035 S. Peoria St.

Parker, CO 80134

Questions: colo.acog@gmail.com

Topics & Schedule

For schedule, speakers, topics, accreditation, please check Spring/Summer 2018
www.acog.org/Colorado



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS



Announcements

A special event of the annual Colorado AWHONN State Conference is the presentation of the Colorado AWHONN Outstanding Nurse Award. This award recognizes an AWHONN nurse who makes an outstanding impact on the health of women and newborns and the nursing profession. This year we had five nominees for the award.

Nomination letters were received from peers, supervisors, and interdisciplinary colleagues; all highlighting the clinical expertise, dedication, collaboration, and innovation of their respective nominees. Congratulations to all our nominees!

Nominee	Agency
Marta Cicero	Rose Medical Center, Denver
Michelle Deuto	Lutheran Medical Center, Wheatridge
Sarah Kuenne	Saint Joseph's Hospital, Denver
Deb Lowery	Saint Joseph's Hospital, Denver
Edna Sailor	Poudre Valley Hospital, Fort Collins

The 2018 Colorado AWHONN Outstanding Nurse Award was presented to Michelle Deuto. Michelle's nomination letters commended her dedication and passion for pregnant women struggling with addiction disorders and their newborns. In her role as Recovery Nurse Advocate, Michelle serves as educator, navigator, and advocate for her vulnerable clients. Michelle has been instrumental in promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and education on addiction, withdrawal, and recovery.

Congratulations to Michelle Deuto, the 2018 CO AWHONN Outstanding Nurse Award recipient!
Submitted by, Sheila Postiglione, Committee Representative

Did you or another AWHONN member you know pass a certification exam? Graduate? Honored for an award? Or any other awesome reason to be recognized?

If so, please contact me! I'd love to honor them in the next upcoming AWHONN Newsletter!

RainyTieman@gmail.com

Submitted by : Sheila Postiglione, CO AWHONN Student Coordinator

With a continued goal on engaging nursing students with AWHONN, we had 29 students register for the CO conference, which represented 10% of total registrants. Two full conference student scholarships were awarded thanks to the generosity of our members. This years' student breakout session, moderated by Rachele Woods, was offered as an interactive panel discussion/Q&A regarding transition into maternal-newborn specialty practice. The panel format was well received by student participants.

Thank you to our wonderful panel of experts!

- Kami Morgenson, L&D RN, Longs Peak Hospital, Longmont CO
- Jane Thompson, Ambulatory RN, Kaiser Permanente Arapahoe OB/GYN
- Katie Klausmeier, NICU RN, North Colorado Medical Center, Greeley CO
- Kindra Pepe, Mom Baby RN, Lutheran Medical Center, Wheat Ridge CO