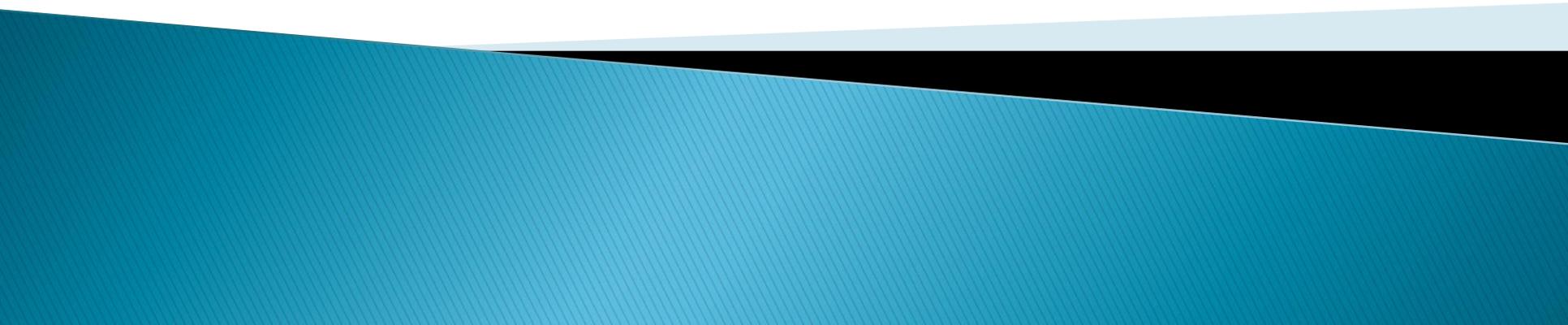


# Research Issues in the Assessment of Birth Settings: Workforce Issues

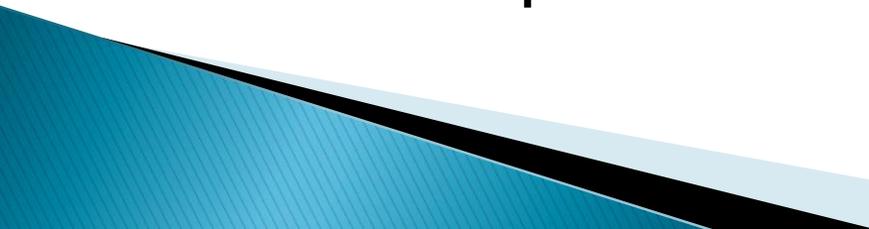
Susan Stapleton, DNP, CNM, FACNM



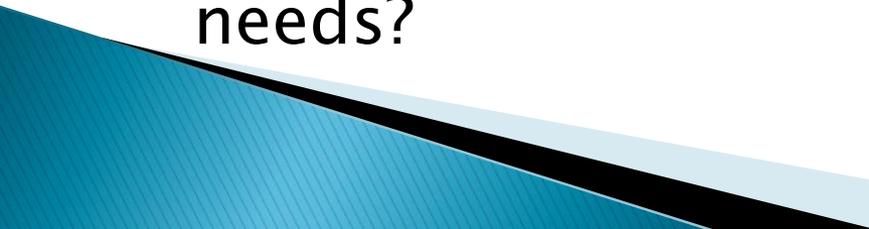
# Workforce Issues: What We Know

- ▶ Level of acuity of hospital-based intrapartum care has increased due, in part, to higher rates of labor induction & cesarean birth.
  - ▶ Some U.S. perinatal outcomes are worsening.
  - ▶ Competent, educated nurses improve patient outcomes.
  - ▶ Births attended by midwives or occurring outside the hospital have increased.
  - ▶ Transitions from one setting to another or one provider to another are associated with increased adverse outcomes – handoffs require a high level of care & coordination.
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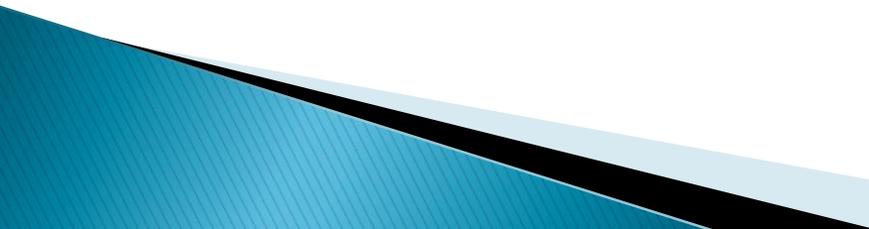
# Workforce Issues: What We Know

- ▶ Need to expand & fully utilize women's health provider workforce is **urgent**.
  - ▶ Collaborative teams of maternity care providers improve outcomes & lower costs.
  - ▶ Current education model tends to reinforce barriers to working collaboratively & is disparate in terms of resources devoted to different providers.
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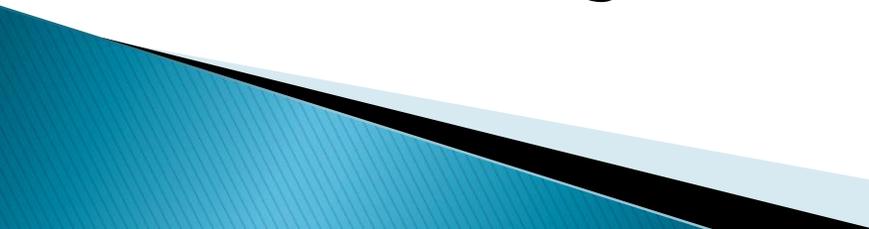
# Workforce Issues: What We Need to Know

- ▶ How does nurse staffing affect quality, safety, and cost of hospital-based perinatal care?
  - ▶ Impact of “missed nursing care” on perinatal outcomes – including breastfeeding measures.
  - ▶ Impact of technology & EHR on workforce training needs & demand?
  - ▶ Impact of patient engagement & shared decision-making models on workforce training & staffing needs?
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# Workforce Issues: What We Need to Know

- ▶ Cost & outcome implications for new models that rely on perinatal teams providing collaborative care?
  - ▶ What provider ratios are optimal for full utilization of the workforce & for high value care?
  - ▶ Are we currently utilizing our workforce to the full extent of their education, training & scope of practice? What are the barriers & incentives?
  - ▶ What new team members can be added to improve outcomes & decrease cost – e.g. peer support?
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# Workforce Issues: What We Need to Know

- ▶ What professional education model(s) will prepare health care providers to function as part of collaborative teams?
  - ▶ What changes are needed in graduate education funding to develop these models?
  - ▶ What are “best practices” to develop & maintain competency of perinatal teams in responding to need for transfer from one birth setting to another?
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# Workforce Issues: What We Need to Know

- ▶ What are exemplary U.S.– and non–U.S.–based models of collaborative practice & how can they best be replicated?
  - ▶ What institutional support and incentives are needed to support collaborative practice models at the health care system level?
  - ▶ How can we foster multidisciplinary collaboration among maternity professionals through payment reform?
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