Cardiovascular Disease and Pregnancy

Highlighting SMFM's Efforts to Reduce CVD-related Maternal Morbidity and Mortality

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We face a maternal health crisis in the United States



Guidelines & Barriers to Care for CVD and Pregnancy

- Drivers
- Timing







Past Publications on CVD

Preeclampsia: a report and recommendations of the workshop of the Society for M aternal-Fetal Medicine and the Preeclampsia Foundation (2022):

"Preeclampsia is associated with a 3-fold increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease (CVD) later in life, which merits heightened awareness, risk mitigation, and improved postpartum follow-up."



Past Publications on CVD

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Special Statement: A quality metric for evaluating timely treatment of severe hypertension (2022)

> Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Statement: Antihypertensive therapy for mild chronic hypertension in pregnancy-The Chronic Hypertension and Pregnancy trial (2022)

> > Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Special Statement: Quality metric for timely postpartum follow-up after severe hypertension (2022)



Past Publications on CVD

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Special Statement: Checklists for preeclampsia risk-factor screening to guide recommendations for prophylactic low-dose aspirin (2020)

> ACOG SMFM Practice Advisory: Low-Dose Aspirin Use for the Prevention of Preeclampsia and Related M orbidity and M ortality (2021)



Society for Maternal Fetal-Medicine Special Statement: Prophylactic low-dose aspirin for preeclampsia prevention—quality metric and opportunities for quality improvement (2023)

Past Educational Activities on CVD

Critical Care in Obstetrics Online Course 2025: Cardiac Disease Bundle

Acquired Cardiac Disease in Pregnancy

Congenital Heart Disease

Maternal Cardiac Arrest

Myocardial Infarction in Pregnancy

Peripartum Cardiomyopathy



Current Work: Cardio-Obstetrics

Primary care Cardioobstetrics care delivery

Growing recognition of the role MFMs play in the multidisciplinary team that collaborates in the care of pregnant people with or at risk of CVD.



Current/Upcoming Work on CVD

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Upcoming Publications (all expected in Summer 2025)

SMFM Consult Series	 Diagnosis and management of right and left heart failure during pregnancy and postpartum
SMFM Special Statement	 Quality Metrics for Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy – Patient Education and Transition to Primary Care
SMFM Special Statement	 Checklists for triage and work-up of persons with symptoms suggestive of cardiovascular disease in pregnancy and postpartum



Current/Upcoming Work on CVD

Education



Cardio-Obstetrics Case Review Series

Online Interactive

New quarterly review series invites MFM and cardiology Fellows to present a challenging cardio-obstetrics case to experts in the field, who lead a dynamic and interactive question-and-answer discussion:

July 2024: Management of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension During Pregnancy and Postpartum (Reg: 392)

October 2024: Aortic Stenosis and Valvuloplasty During Pregnancy (Reg: 341)

January 8, 2025: Aortic Dissection and Marfan Syndrome in Pregnancy (Registration 221)

April 2025: AngioVac-Assisted Clinical Management of Right-Sided Infective Endocarditis During Pregnancy (157)

July 2025: From Dissection to Delivery: Navigating SCAD and Heart Failure in Pregnancy

January 2026: Aortic Dissection and Marfan Syndrome in Pregnancy



Ongoing Education on CVD

The HEART of the Matter: Cardio-Obstetrics for the MFM Specialist



Location: Aurora Ballroom B, Lobby Level

Course Chair: Stephanie Purisch, MD – Columbia New York Presbyterian

Course Chair: Ponnila Marinescu, MD – University of Rochester Medical Center

Presentations:

CME 7 Credits

- Understanding the Underpinnings: Cardiac Physiology in Pregnancy and Preconception Risk Assessment
- Management of prosthetic valves and Valvular Interventions During Pregnancy
- Anticoagulation During Pregnancy and the Puerperium: The Whos, Whys, and How Tos
- Pregnancy Considerations in Individuals with Aortopathies
- Arrhythmias: Definitions, Detection, and Treatment
- Management of Hypertensive Emergencies in Pregnant Cardiac Patients
- Obstetric Anesthesia Considerations for the Pregnant Cardiac Patient
- -Cardiac Emergencies in Pregnancy
- Lifetime Cardiovascular Risk: The Need for Multidisciplinary Care Beyond Pregnancy
- Cardiac Bundle: Educating the Masses



Current/Upcoming Work on CVD

Projects and Grants

ACC	 2025 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on Optimizing Postpartum Care for Women with or at-risk-for Cardiovascular Disease
CDC Grant	• CDC's Million Hearts Hypertension in Pregnancy Change Package
SMFM Initiative	 Cardio-obstetrics needs assessment (2025-2026)
SMFM Workshop	 Innovative Care Delivery Models (with hypertension care incorporated)



Ongoing Strategies This is an everyone issue

• Collaborating in our approach

- Working with multidisciplinary groups-patient advocacy organizations, policy makers
- Focused approach transitions of care post delivery, in between pregnancies (inter-conception) and preconception
- Widespread Education
 - Patients and families
 - Primary care, Cardiology, Emergency Medicine
- Innovative approaches to expertise-telehealth, phone lines, consultant access
 - Policy and liability barriers



Society for Maternal • Fetal Medicine