Listening Session: Gaps in clinical preventative services for cardiovascular disease (CVD) before, during, and after pregnancy – The Patient's Perspective

May 12, 2025 | 1-5:30pm Eleni Z. Tsigas Chief Executive Officer Eleni.Tsigas@preeclampsia.org



7 Gaps in Healthcare – a Lifelong Issue

- 1. It's hard to get to a one week follow up appointment after delivery just to have my BP checked.
- 2. Limited number of postpartum health clinics and protocols.
- 3. Many postpartum moms are not prescribed antihypertensive medications or given a home BP monitor for labile or non-severe high blood pressure.
- 4. Pregnancy history is not asked about nor noted in future healthcare encounters.
- Healthcare professionals don't know about the connection between preeclampsia and long-term CVD risk.
- 6. Lack of insurance coverage for postpartum follow-up.
- 7. Most preeclampsia survivors are finding out from us, not their healthcare providers, that they are at heightened risk for CVD**



Addressing Barriers to Care

- Use telehealth and Home BP Monitoring (HBPM).
- Extend insurance coverage for HBPM devices to cover women *at risk*, not just those already diagnosed with CVD.
- Train healthcare professionals on how to use shared decision-making tools and best practices so patients are empowered be accountable for their own healthy choices.
- Tighter BP control before, during and after pregnancy. See CHAPS* trial results and secondary studies.
- Provide patient education at multiple times, via various channels.
- Extend the resources of postpartum health clinics to rural and community settings (e.g., use telehealth, peer training)



By – For – and About Mothers; Our Point of View is Informed by...

The Preeclampsia Registry 10,000 participants 1.3M unique visitors/year Website – Share Your Story Social Media – public / private messaging Facebook, Instagram, X, etc. The Promise Walk for Preeclampsia I Since 2010, ~40 walks/year ·300+ trained patient advocates MoMMAs Voices events 12 rotating diverse experiences Patient Advisory Council Hundreds of interactions/year Warmline (800-665-9341) and info@preeclampsia.org Internal and external research studies Research Collaborations* Direct emails/newsletters 20k+ subscribers; very high Open Rate and high number of interactions