



## **Black Infant Mortality in New Jersey *Past, Present and Future***

**Robert Treat Hotel**

**50 Park Place**

**Meeting Room: New York/New Jersey**

**Newark, New Jersey 07102**

**Friday, June 2, 2017**

**A CE-Certified Activity Jointly Provided by**

**The Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey  
and Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences**

**Nursing Contact Hours provided by the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey.  
Program joint provided by the SIDS Center of New Jersey**

**Social Work Continuing Education Credits Program provided by the SIDS Center of New Jersey / Seton Hall University at Hackensack University Medical Center**

### **Overview**

While there has been a national decline in Black non-Hispanic infant mortality over the past decade, racial disparity remains evident. For 2014, the most recent year with finalized national data, the Black non-Hispanic infant mortality rate was 10.93 per 1000 live births, in contrast to 4.89 for White non-Hispanic infants. And, even in states in which declining infant mortality falls below national rates, there are communities that run counter to such improvement. Thus, while New Jersey's Black non-Hispanic infant mortality rate declined to 8.89 in 2014, the rates for Camden and Essex counties rose to 12.15 and 10.32, respectively. There is an urgent need to translate epidemiologic data and scientific knowledge into clinical and public health practices.

This conference will focus on the disturbing disparity between Black infant deaths and those of other races. Among the major risk factors for Black infant death are parental stress, tobacco use, reduced access to care, prematurity, low birth weight, poverty, and lower compliance with safe sleep recommendations. Our faculty will address social and clinical contributors to Black infant mortality, with the expectation that attendees will participate in the formulation of practical initiatives that will translate research into evidence-based practice.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Discuss the epidemiological and environmental risk factors associated with Black infant mortality and racial disparity in national, state and local data.
- Apply new, evidence-based initiatives into practice to address risk reduction for the leading cause of Black infant mortality through the promotion of health equity and the implementation of interventions at individual, family, and community levels.

## **Target Audience**

Healthcare professionals, community and government stakeholders, and healthcare systems and industry representatives working in or having an interest in perinatal health, education and support.

## **Disclosures**

The Planning Committee, presenters, faculty, authors, and content reviewers have no conflicts of interest to disclose. Disclosure forms are required, and they are reviewed for any issues. Speakers are required to present balanced and unbiased presentations. The presentation content has been reviewed, and any bias has been eliminated.

## **Successful Completion / Awarding of Certificate**

To receive CME, contact hours or continuing education credits for this continuing education program, the registrant must sign in on the attendance sheet, attend the entire program, complete and submit a program evaluation. CME certificates will be mailed. All other certificates will be distributed at the conference upon receipt of the evaluation form.

Social workers must provide their license numbers, and CHES must provide CHES ID number at registration.

## **Continuing Education Credits/Contact Hours**

### ***Physicians***



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INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey. Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### ***Nurses***

This program has been awarded 6.75 contact hours. The Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by NJSNA, an accredited approver, by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Provider # P194-1/17-20. Provider approval is valid through January 31, 2020.

Accreditation refers to recognition of continuing education activities only and does not imply approval or endorsement of any commercial products discussed/displayed in conjunction with the educational activity by the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey, NJSNA or ANCC.

### ***Social Workers***

The SIDS Center of NJ is a dual site program. The site within Hackensack UMC, is an established provider of social work continuing education, meeting the requirements set forth by the Board of Social Work Examiners, through Seton Hall University at Hackensack University Medical Center. This accreditation is recognized by the United States Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education. <https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.aspx> Attendance and submission of evaluation, at this course, will provide 6 clinical and cultural competency continuing education credits.

### ***Certified Health Education Specialists***

Sponsored by the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey, a designated provider of continuing education contact hours (CECH) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This program is designated for Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES) and/or Master Certified Health Education Specialists (MCCHES) to receive up to 7 total Category I continuing education contact hours. Maximum advanced-level continuing education contact hours available are 7.

### ***Public Health***

Participants who successfully complete this educational program will be awarded 6.75 NJ Public Health Continuing Education Contact Hours (CEs).

The Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Health as a provider of New Jersey Public Health Continuing Education Contact Hours (CEs).

### **Accessibility**

This location is handicap accessible. Please let us know if you will need ADA accommodations when you register or call Evelin Urcuyo.

### **Registration**

General Admission: \$75

Registration is on-line at:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ee08he7oab61ac9f&oseq=&c=&ch=>

*Registration will close one week prior to the event.*

### **Location**

The Robert Treat Hotel is located at 50 Park Place, Newark, New Jersey. For additional information and directions visit: <http://www.rthotel.com/contact-us/>

Parking will be available in the Military Park Garage at 42-50 Park Place, Newark NJ. Parking is complimentary if you present your parking voucher at the registration desk for validation.

### **Photography/Videography**

From time to time, the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey uses photographs and videography of conference events in its promotional materials. Unless this permission is revoked in writing to the Partnership, prior to the event, by virtue of their attendance, all conference participants agree to the use of their likeness in Partnership materials.

### **Cancellations**

Although registration fees are non-refundable, they are transferable. To transfer a registration, please contact Evelin Urcuyo at [eurcuyo@partnershipmch.org](mailto:eurcuyo@partnershipmch.org) or 973-268-2280 x167, no later than one week prior to the event.

**Grievance Policy:**

Any attendee with a complaint or grievance should contact Evelin Urcuyo via email. Once received, the complaint will be acknowledged. It will then be reviewed and discussed by Partnership staff consisting of the Executive Director, Ilise Zimmerman and the Director of Education, Amy Gole, in a timely manner. A satisfactory solution will then be offered to the participant in writing. The attendee may register complaints with the approval entity with an option to appeal to the Board if displeased with the results of the process described above. To file a grievance, please contact Evelin Urcuyo at [eurcuyo@partnershipmch.org](mailto:eurcuyo@partnershipmch.org).

**Questions?**

Contact Amy Gole at [agole@partnershipmch.org](mailto:agole@partnershipmch.org), or 973-268-2280 x 100.

The Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey reserves the right to modify program content, faculty and program activities. It also reserves the right to cancel the activity, if necessary. If the activity is cancelled, liability is limited to the registration fee.

## Program Agenda

7:30 AM	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast (to be provided)</b>
8:00 AM	<b>Welcome</b>  Rochelle Evans, MS, RN Board Member, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey
	Thomas Hegyi, MD Director, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program Professor and Vice-chair, Department of Pediatrics Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Medical Director, SIDS Center of New Jersey
	Ilise Zimmerman, MS, MPH Executive Director, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey
8:10 AM	<b>Welcome to the City of Newark</b>  The Honorable Ras Baraka, MA Mayor, City of Newark
8:15 AM	<b>Social Determinants of Black Infant Mortality</b>  Denise Rodgers, MD, FAAC Vice Chancellor for Interprofessional Programs Director, Rutgers Urban Health and Wellness Institute; Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Professor of Community Medicine and Family Health Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
9:00 AM	<b>Measuring Racial Disparity and Inequities: Informing Future Directions</b>  Barbara M. Ostfeld, PhD Professor, Department of Pediatrics Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Program Director, SIDS Center of New Jersey
9:45 AM	<b>The Role of Prematurity in Infant Mortality</b>  Onajovwe Fofah, MD Vice Chair of Clinical Enterprise, Department of Pediatrics Director, Division of Neonatology Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
10:45 AM	<b>The Impact of Stress on Black Infant Mortality</b>  Tyan Parker Dominguez, PhD, MPH, MSW Clinical Associate Professor Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California
11:30 AM	<b>Substance Use and Infant Mortality</b>  Ronald J. Librizzi, DO Virtua Chief, Maternal Fetal Medicine and Medical Director Virtua Medical Group
12:15 PM	<b>Questions and Answers – Panel Discussion</b>  Moderator: Morris Cohen, MD Director, Neonatal Medicine Co-Director, Regional Perinatal Center, Quality & Safety Officer Children's Hospital of New Jersey

12:45 PM	<p><b>Lunch (to be provided)</b></p> <p><b>New Jersey's Initiatives to Reduce Black Infant Mortality</b></p> <p>Assistant Commissioner Lisa Asare, MPH Family Health Services, New Jersey Department of Health</p> <p>Commissioner Allison Blake, PhD, LSW New Jersey Department of Children and Families</p>
1:30 PM	<p><b>Community Engagement:</b> <b>Opportunities for Addressing Infant Mortality and Health Disparities</b></p> <p>Ndidiama Amutah, PhD, MPH, CHES Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Montclair State University</p>
2:15 PM	<p><b>Breakout Sessions</b> (Choose one to attend)</p> <p><b><i>Access to Care</i></b></p> <p>Damali Campbell Oparaji MD Assistant Professor, Rutgers- New Jersey Medical School Attending Physician, University Hospital Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health</p> <p><b><i>Engagement of Fathers</i></b></p> <p>Kendell Sprott, MD, JD Chief Executive Officer, Matheny Medical and Educational Center</p> <p><b><i>Faith-based Community Action</i></b></p> <p>Reverend Phillip Gilmore, MBA, MPS Senior Pastor, Saint John's Community Baptist Church</p> <p><b><i>HIV</i></b></p> <p>James Oleske, MD, MPH Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Endowed Chair Professor of Pediatrics Division Director of Allergy, Immunology and Infectious Diseases Rutgers New Jersey Medical School</p> <p>Patricia Whitley-Williams, MD Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School</p> <p><b><i>Legislative Challenges</i></b></p> <p>Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver, MS Assistant County Administrator, Essex County Speaker Emerita, Assemblywoman, New Jersey General Assembly</p>
3:00 PM	<p><b>Shared Insights</b></p> <p>Yvonne Wesley, PhD, RN, FAAN Independent Health Consultant</p> <p>Ilise Zimmerman, MS, MPH Executive Director, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey</p>
3:35 PM	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p>Thomas Hegyi, MD</p>

## Description of Presentations

### Social Determinants of Black Infant Mortality

**Denise V. Rodgers, MD, FAAFP**

This presentation will introduce the role of social determinants in perpetuating disparities in health and healthcare outcomes by race. It will also provide national and state level data to demonstrate possible contributors to poorer health outcomes in Black women and their infants.

### Measuring Racial Disparity and Inequities: Informing Future Directions

**Barbara M. Ostfeld, PhD**

This presentation will demonstrate the impact of economic, environmental, behavioral, and social factors on racial disparities in infant mortality, including sudden, unexpected infant deaths, the first twelve months of life. Evidence-based interventions will be presented and national, state and local data will be used to identify new pathways to health.

### The Role of Prematurity in Infant Mortality

**Onajovwe Fofah, MD**

The USA has higher rates of infant mortality when compared to other developed nations. This presentation will discuss the role of prematurity as a major contributor to the high rates seen in the USA. The increasing numbers of extremely low birth weight infants and deaths, beyond the neonatal period, as well as the role of race will also be examined during this talk.

### The Impact of Stress on Black Infant Mortality

**Tyan Parker Dominguez, PhD, MPH, MSW**

This presentation will describe the intersectional stressors of classism, racism, and sexism that African American women experience, as well as the ways in which this "toxic stress" may take a psychological and physiological toll that increases their risk for adverse birth outcomes.

### Substance Use and Infant Mortality

**Ronald J. Librizzi D.O**

Fetal and infant mortality is a multi-faceted issue, and substance use is an important variable. Use and abuse conforms to a multifactorial impact on an individual's pregnancy. This presentation will take a practical look at the challenges we as providers need to address with substance use very similar to other risks to mother and child.

### New Jersey's Initiatives to Reduce Black Infant Mortality

**Assistant Commissioner Lisa Asare, MPH**

**Commissioner Allison Blake, PhD, LSW**

The keynote address will offer a historical perspective on reduction initiatives in New Jersey and highlight programs currently underway.

### Community engagement: Opportunities for Addressing Infant Mortality and Health Disparities

**Ndidiamaka Amutah, PhD, MPH, CHES**

The focus of the talk will be on the role of health care providers and how the medical and public health community can more effectively collaborate with vulnerable communities to address the underlying issues of health disparities which impact infant mortality. Additionally, the opportunity to expand upon existing resources and strengths of the community will be addressed.

## Break-out Sessions

Break-out session leaders will challenge participants to create innovative and practical initiatives toward disparity reduction among specific populations, community organizations and civic entities.

- **Access to Care**  
Damali Campbell Oparaji, MD
- **Engagement of Fathers**  
Kendell Sprott, MD, JD
- **Faith-Based Community Action**  
Reverend Phillip Gilmore, MBA, MPS
- **HIV**  
James Oleske, MD, MPH  
Patricia Whitley-Williams, MD
- **Legislative Challenges**  
Assemblywoman Sheila Oliver, MS

## Shared Insights

**Yvonne Wesley, PhD, RN, FAAN**

**Ilise Zimmerman, MS, MPH**

The purpose of this session will be to facilitate summarizing and sharing the recommendations proposed by the break-out sessions with all conference attendees.

## Funding

This program is generously supported by funding from:



American Academy of Pediatrics  
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