

Perinatal Care (PC)

Benefits of Perinatal Care Performance Measures

PC consists of five measures representing domains of care which pertain to:

- Assessment/screening
- Prematurity care
- Infant feeding
- Continuity/transitions of care

Continuous monitoring of perinatal care leads to lower morbidity, mortality and healthcare costs.

The Joint Commission's Perinatal Care Performance Measures

PC-01: Elective Delivery

Elective deliveries performed prior to 39 weeks have a direct correlation with increased length of labor, complications of labor and overall and significant neonatal morbidity. Some of the complications include:

- Transient tachypnoea of the newborn
- Respiratory Distress Syndrome
- Hypoglycemia
- Hyperbilirubinemia

PC-2: Cesarean Section

A study (Main EK et al., 2006) has shown that utilizing the nulliparous term singleton vertex cesarean section measure serves as an effective quality improvement tool in hospitals because it is highly influenced by elective obstetric practices. Therefore modifying physician factors can lower cesarean section rates.

PC-3: Antenatal Steroids

Preterm delivery (10% of all deliveries in the US) is the contributory factor for 75% of neonatal mortality. A "rescue course" of antenatal steroids, if administered to women who could deliver prematurely, reduces the threat of potential respiratory complications with no adverse side effects.

PC-4: Healthcare-Associated Bloodstream Infection in Newborns

The incidence of nosocomial infections in newborns is relatively high in NICU and is also associated with low birth weight and central venous catheter usage. The causative organisms are coagulase-negative staphylococci, *Staphylococcus aureus*, enterococci, *Enterobacter sp*, and *Escherichia coli*. Preventive methodologies include hand washing and closed medication delivery systems to facility-wide quality initiatives.

PC-5: Exclusive Breast-Milk Feeding

Breast-milk feeding is a shared goal of WHO, DHHS, AAP and ACOG.

References <http://www.urmc.rochester.edu>

For more information please contact (877) QUANTROS and press 3 or sales@quantros.com