Initiative to Reduce Unnecessary Cesarean Section Deliveries in California

Sandra R. Hernández, MD
President/CEO, CHCF
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Why focus on maternity care?

- Birth = #1 reason for hospitalization
- 500,000 births each year in California (1/8 of all U.S births)
  - Half are Medi-Cal
- Known quality problems with negative consequences for both mothers and babies; examples:
  - Early elective deliveries
  - Obstetric hemorrhage
  - Unnecessary C-sections
- High costs
  - Average delivery: $15,000-20,000
Key Concern: Rising Total C-Section Rates (50% increase last 15 years!)

US 2013 = 32.7%
CA 2013 = 33.1%

NOTE: The total cesarean delivery rate is the percentage of all live births by cesarean delivery.
Extreme Variation in First Time, Low-Risk C-section

- National Target: 23.9%
- California Average: 27.3%
- 40% of CA hospitals meet the national target.
- 60% of CA hospitals need to improve.
Successful Model for Change

- Purchaser Requirements
- Data/Transparency
- Payment
- Quality Improvement
- Public Policy
- Patient Engagement

Lower C-Section
Key asset for change in California: California Maternal Data Center (MDC)
How is the Data Center innovative?

1. Turns data into action
2. Unprecedented public/private collaboration
3. Low burden/low cost
4. Timely for quality improvement
5. User-friendly interface
6. Supports hospital reporting requirements
7. Spreadable
**Maternal Data Center: Turning Data into Action**

**Example of Physician-level C-section Comparisons**

*Hospitals can view physician-level rates.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Medical Center</th>
<th>5844</th>
<th>32.2%</th>
<th>2369</th>
<th>37.9%</th>
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<tr>
<td>G5xxxx</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G6xxxx</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G7xxxx</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>G8xxxx</td>
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<td>15.4%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>A8xxxx</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>20</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>28.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A9xxxxx</td>
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<td>36.2%</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>481</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note the two busiest providers had widely different rates.
Many partners involved:

- California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative
- Department of Health Care Services (Medi-Cal)
- Covered California
- California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)
- Department of Public Health
- Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development (OSHPD)
- Pacific Business Group on Health
- California Hospital Association & Hospital Quality Institute
- CAPG
- Integrated HealthCare Association
- Hospitals participating in the Maternal Data Center
- National specialty societies (ACOG, AWHONN, ACNM)
- California HealthCare Foundation
- ....and many others!
Next steps

• Continued recruitment of hospitals to actively participate in the Data Center (on-going)

• Release of C-section Provider Toolkit (Spring 2016)

• Launch of Statewide Quality Improvement Collaborative with 65 hospitals (Spring 2016)

• Alignment of payment and quality incentives

• Patient/consumer engagement