

MMRC Quarterly Notifications: January 2021



The committee has identified these emerging issues for providers, healthcare facilities and organizations from the 2020 fourth quarter of Maternal Mortality Reviews:

Recommendations:

- Pursue timely evaluation of abnormal breast exam regardless of gestation and lactation status, to allow for earlier diagnosis of potential breast cancers
- Providers would benefit from education on motivational interviewing and implement those practices to better identify the patients' risk factors for developing complications during pregnancy. <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2009/01/motivational-interviewing-a-tool-for-behavior-change>
- Providers should be educated on and encouraged to utilize the Lethality Assessment Tool at all follow-up visits to screen for indicators of domestic violence. <https://www.tn.gov/finance/office-of-criminal-justice-programs/ocjp/fa-ocjp-best-practices/fa-ocjp-lap.html>
- Preventing maternal death relies on understanding why mothers die therefore an autopsy should be pursued/obtained when the specific cause of maternal death is unknown.
- Providers would benefit from education on bias regarding managing difficult patient encounters.