

November 28, 2023

Dear Hospital Administrator,

In 2022, the FDA provided funding to develop the COMFORT clinical practice guideline (CPG) for acute pain management after childbirth.

The Obstetrics Initiative (OBI) is facilitating the adoption of the national COMFORT CPG in Michigan. OBI is a statewide quality improvement initiative that collects clinically credible data and shares best practices across over 70 hospitals, with the goal of optimizing maternity care experiences, outcomes, and equity. Support for OBI is provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network as part of the BCBSM Value Partnerships program.

OBI has tied **10% of its 2024 Pay for Performance Scorecard** to meeting initiative goals:

- Scheduled acetaminophen and oral NSAID ordered on patients without contraindication after NTSV cesarean birth
  - $\geq 80\%$  compliance (5 points)
  - Between 60 - 79% compliance (3 points)
- Total oral morphine equivalent (OME) prescribed appropriate with delivery method
  - Metrics (3/3 metrics met = 5 points; 2/3 metrics met = 3 points)
    - 90% of vaginal births with no advanced laceration: OME = 0
    - 100% of vaginal births with advanced laceration: OME  $\leq 75$
    - 100% of cesarean births: OME  $\leq 112$

OBI has also developed a suite of **QI resources**, available on [obstetricsinitiative.org](https://obstetricsinitiative.org), to help make CPG implementation straightforward and successful. But support from the OBI Coordinating Center alone won't be enough.

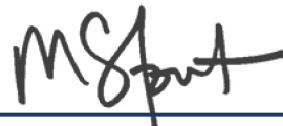
We encourage you to **invest hospital time and resources** in successfully implementing the COMFORT CPG, to improve patient outcomes at your hospital.

As with all improvement work we introduce, we know that we cannot achieve lasting results without your partnership. We are so thankful that together, we can improve the quality of care and outcomes for all people birthing in Michigan hospitals. If you have questions regarding the new national COMFORT CPG or OBI's quality initiative launch, please contact [OBICustomerSupport@med.umich.edu](mailto:OBICustomerSupport@med.umich.edu).

Thank you for your continued partnership,



Dr. Michelle Moniz, Director



Dr. Molly Stout, Assoc. Director