

## About the programs

More than 3,000 women experience a life-threatening event during childbirth, and about 30 women die each year in New York City. In particular, black non-Hispanic women are eight times more likely to die of pregnancy-related complications than white women in New York City, three times more likely than the national average. Issues around maternal mortality rates are complex, particularly for black women. Contributing factors to this epidemic include the health status of Black women, such as the prevalence of obesity and decreased access to care; issues of poverty, such as inadequate housing; residential segregation and lower educational attainment; and the stressors stemming from racism. Even when controlling for socioeconomic and educational status, black women are still more likely to suffer from SMM and MM than women of other races and ethnicities.

In 2018, New York City invested approximately \$12.5 million to launch a city-wide plan to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality rates. New York City Health + Hospitals is a key component of this plan, along with its agency partner NYC DOHMH. New York City Health and Hospitals is the largest public hospital system in the United States. In 2017, there were 16,766 babies born to mothers in all of the eleven acute-care facilities of NYC H+H. Of these almost 17,000 births, over 10% of births are born to mothers who have a condition which characterizes the pregnancy as high risk; with diagnoses such as hypertension, obesity and diabetes.

There are four components to the NYC Health +Hospitals plan to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity.

## About us

NYC Health + Hospitals is the largest public health care system in the United States. We provide essential inpatient, outpatient, and home-based services to more than one million New Yorkers every year in more than 70 locations across the city's five boroughs.

Our 11 acute care hospitals provide top-ranked trauma care, dozens of inpatient specialties, and mental health services, making communities healthy through a robust network of hospital-based primary care services for children and adults. Our hospitals have earned numerous special designations for quality and culturally responsive care including LGBTQ Healthcare Equity Leader, Baby Friendly, Safe Sleep, and top ranks by U.S. News and World Report.

Our five post-acute/long-term care facilities have earned the highest five and four star ratings by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare for their excellent long-term care, skilled nursing care, and rehabilitation services.

Gotham Health is our network of Federally Qualified Health Center clinics across the five boroughs that offers patient-centered primary and preventive care services for the entire family and is focused on meeting community health needs.

NYC Health + Hospitals/At Home, our certified home health agency, offers expert services in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, and the Bronx.

Our health plan, MetroPlus, offers low to no-cost health insurance to eligible people living in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. MetroPlus is the health plan of choice for more than 500,000 New Yorkers including many New York City government employees.

OneCity Health is the NYC Health + Hospitals-sponsored Performing Provider System (PPS) – the heart of our population health efforts, designed to reduce avoidable and unnecessary hospital stays. As the largest PPS in New York City, OneCity Health comprises hundreds of health care providers and community-based organizations who work together to keep communities healthy.

Our diverse workforce is uniquely focused on empowering New Yorkers, without exception, to live the healthiest life possible.

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# On The Path To Reducing Maternal Morbidity



**NYC**  
**HEALTH+**  
**HOSPITALS**

## #safemomsnyc

#safemomsnyc is a Simulation-based initiative which will train all members of the healthcare team to deal with obstetric emergencies caused by the top three (3) causes of maternal mortality: OB Life support which trains providers to immediately implement life-support for women in cardiac arrest, delivery a baby within a prescribed time-frame and use every means possible to save a mother's life. The OB Hemorrhage and Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy simulations drill providers to treat life-threatening hemorrhage and hypertension in pregnancy. NYC H+H is building mini-simulation labs in six of its most acute hospitals and developing curriculum which has been recognized by a national leader in women's health, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) for programmatic accreditation. This program will implement in-situ drills at all eleven acute care facilities which birth babies and collect data on response times and other clinical outcomes.

## NYC Maternal Medical Home

**NYC Maternal Medical Home (NYC-MMH)** project is for patients who are 'At-risk' in the pregnant or postpartum period. Patients are screened for pregnancy high risk factors including clinical, psychosocial, and environmental factors. The MMH will provide patient outreach, facilitate patient engagement with their medical home, assist with continued access to and navigation of the health care system and in general, provide appropriate support and resources for patients. The MMH will employ evidence-based clinical guidelines and access the comprehensive data-bank of local resources which are available to help patients achieve a healthy pregnancy, birth and birth outcome. The MMH program is an outcome-driven initiative which is monitored for specific performance indicators, such as the rate of low birth weight infants and the primary cesarean delivery rate.

## Interval Pregnancy Optimization

Two other important programs to improve maternal health are the **Interval Pregnancy Optimization** program. In this program, all providers who see women of reproductive age will ask about pregnancy intention. Women who want to have a baby within the next year will have their health assessed with this in consideration. Important steps to implement prior to pregnancy, including folic acid supplementation, medical condition optimization and referral to a maternal health specialist will be taken. Conversely, women who do not wish to become pregnant will be able to access any number of effective, quality contraception.

## Mother - Baby

Mothers often do not attend to their own health needs in favor of attending to the needs of their babies and other family members. The **Mother-Baby Coordinated Visit** program will combine mother and baby visits in order to improve attendance at these visits and improve screening and treatment for postpartum problems such as depression and hypertension.