

Aim

Multidisciplinary active training is the key to effective detection and management of the critically ill pregnant person, which in turn should reflect positively on fetal and neonatal outcomes

Context

- Severe illness in pregnancy is relatively rare and normal physiological changes in pregnancy can mask the early signs normally seen in the deteriorating patient .
- Failure to identify early warning signs has been a recurrent feature of cases of maternal death and serious maternal and neonatal morbidity (Care of the critically ill woman in Childbirth; enhanced maternal care, 2018)
- A knowledge deficit was identified in the early and effective detection of the critically ill pregnant person.

What are we trying to accomplish?

- Provide a short course for our staff to improve the confidence and the competence of the multi-professional team in the identification, assessment and initial stabilisation of the critically ill pregnant or postpartum person. (Care of that Critically ill Pregnant or Postpartum Person (CIPP), 2019)

What we did ?

Plan – Do Check Act PDCA Cycle

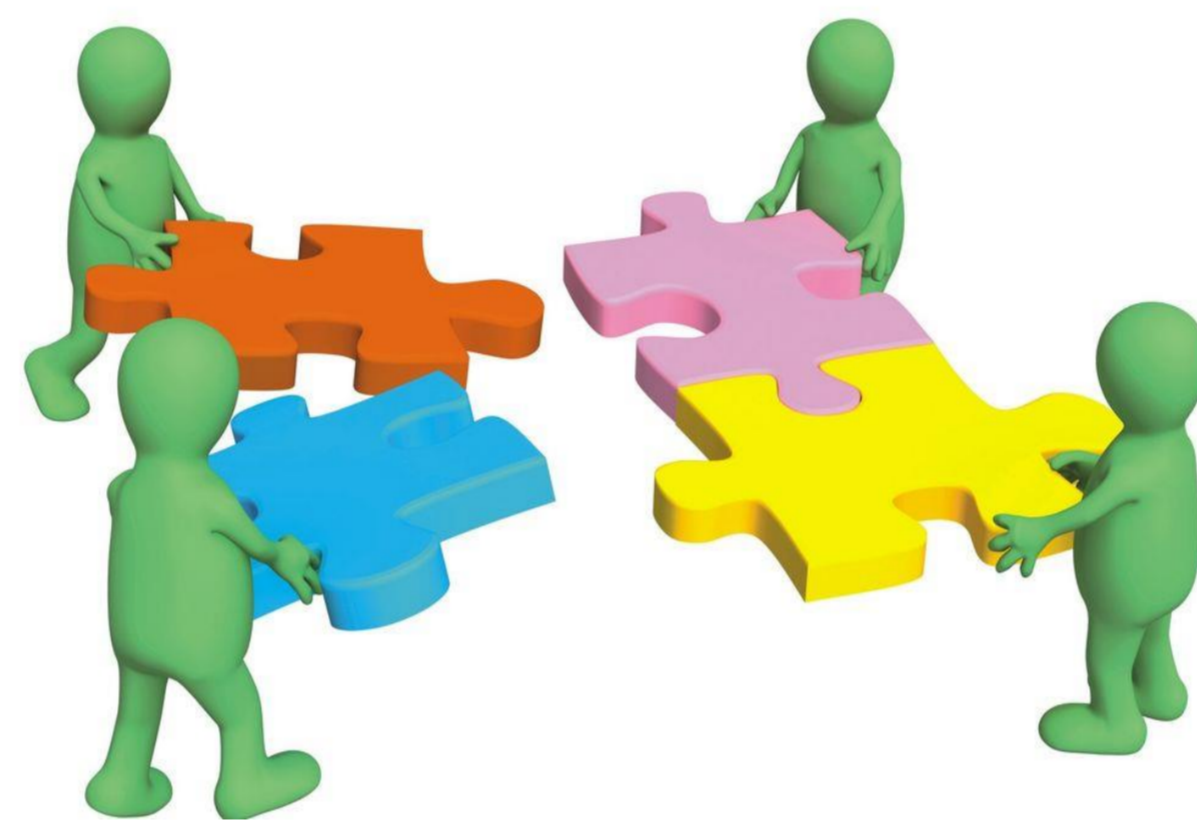


Plan :

- A series of consultations were held with the multidisciplinary team to identify a method of addressing the knowledge deficit.
- It was agreed that an additional training, locally run, multi professional training programme for maternity staff involved in maternal critical care was required and CIPP was identified as the means to address our knowledge deficit.
- CIPP is an additional component to our already well established and successfully evaluated Practical Obstetric Multi-professional Training (PROMPT) course

Do:

- Engaged with midwifery staff to ascertain their specific needs in relation to the theory and practical elements of the course.
- Undertook a comprehensive review of the course content and had a multi-professional overview to tailor the course content to address our identified local needs.
- Invited key personnel from the Coronary Care Unit and Intensive Care Unit to come aboard to assist with teaching of the practical sessions to harness their expert knowledge.
- Disseminated key learning objectives and locally adapted power point presentations for staff to utilise during the teaching sessions.
- Training needed to be facilitated within the clinical area. Training space was organised to ensure a more realistic simulated experience for staff.



Check:

An in depth post course evaluation was obtained to ascertain the effectiveness of the training day in addressing the learning needs.

Some of the key findings from staff were:

- Increased confidence and heightened awareness of the importance in identifying the deteriorating woman.
- More confident in caring for a critically ill pregnant or postpartum woman.
- The benefit of incorporating practical sessions, acknowledging that “learning by doing” was advantageous when carrying out specific task, e.g. setting up an arterial line.
- Staff requested that the theory aspect be delivered in a more case study based format.

Staff noted the benefit of multi-professional team work.

Act :

- These findings have been acknowledged and adopted and incorporated within the course format
- We are running this course for our multidisciplinary team four times per year.

References

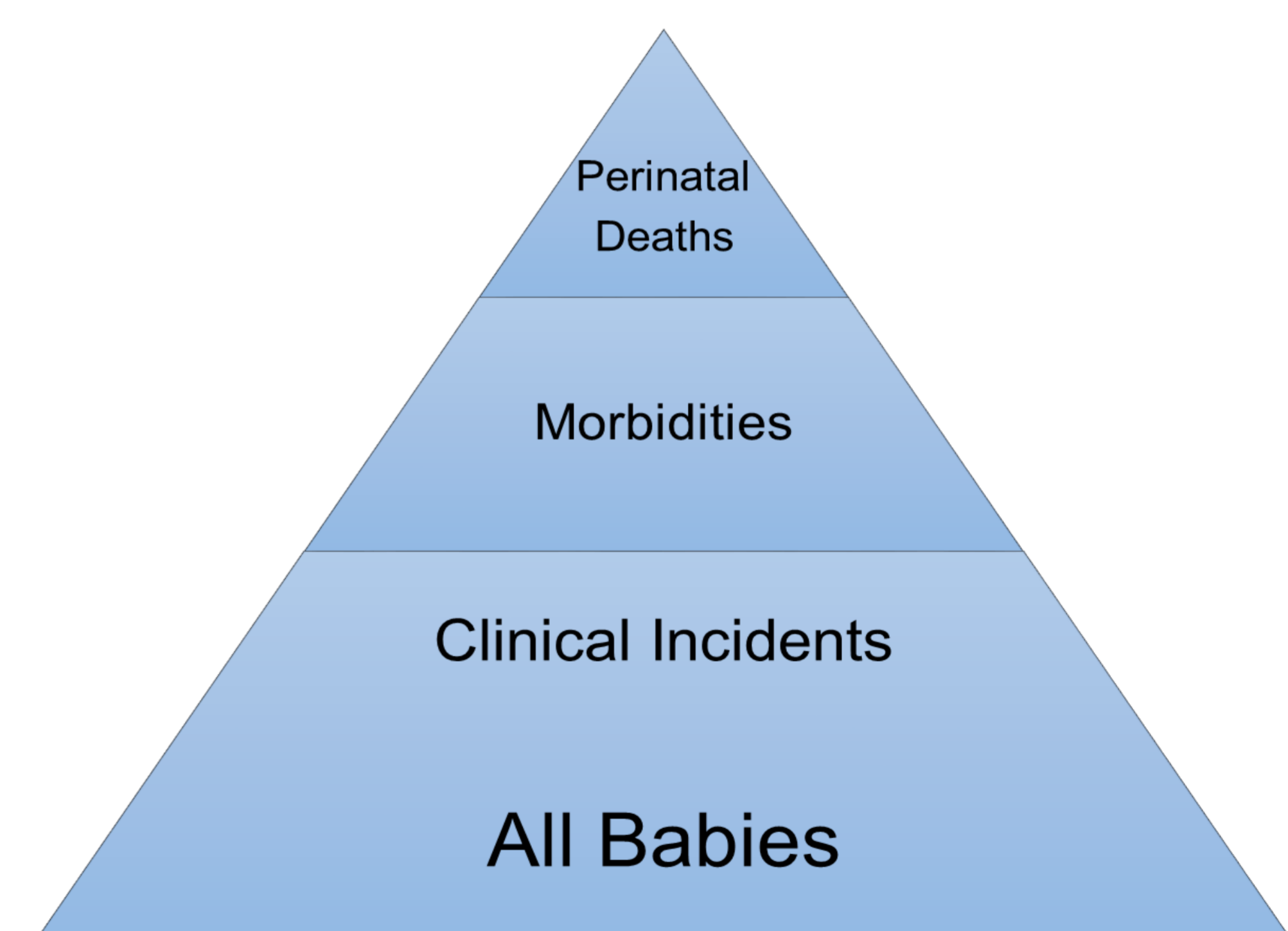
- Royal College of Anaesthetists, 2018. Care of the critically ill woman in childbirth; enhanced maternal care.
- PROMPT-CIPP Editorial Team ed., 2019. *PROMPT-CIPP Course Participant's Handbook*. Cambridge University Press.
- O'Farrell, I.B., Manning, E., Corcoran, P. and Greene, R.A., 2019. Perinatal mortality in Ireland annual report 2017.

What We Achieved

- We recognised and identified knowledge and skill deficits in our unit.
- We brought together a multi- professional team to roll out appropriate training for our staff to meet our units specific needs.
- We have put in place a course which will ensure a safer unit for the mother and infants under our care.
- By identifying and correctly managing the deteriorating mother we can improve both maternal and perinatal outcomes.



Goals



- With the implementation of the Cipp course, it is our goal that the continuum of care is not only achieved for the critically ill pregnant or postpartum woman but also results in improved outcomes for their fetus and neonate.

Acknowledgements

- Dr Dara Diviney, Anaesthetic Consultant
- Dr Rosemary Moriarity, Anaesthetic Consultant
- Dr Rosemary Harkin, Obstetric Consultant
- Danielle Keating, Clinical Skills Facilitator ICU
- Niamh Ruddy, Clinical Skills Facilitator ICU
- Mary Meadh, Clinical Skills Facilitator CCU