Hawaii Department of Health
Maternal Mortality Review Committee

Introduction:
• Legislation passed in 2016 requiring the DOH to work with partners to review Maternal and Child Deaths
• Number of committee members ~20

Leadership:
• Scott Harvey MD; Clinical Chair, OBGYN and Surgical/Trauma Critical Care Fellowship
• Maternal and Child Health Branch, Hawaii State Department of Health

Vision/Scope:
• Establish a sustainable process to review Maternal Deaths
• Review all pregnancy associated and related deaths within 1 year of pregnancy

Specialties, Partners, and Organizations
• American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
• American College of Nurse Midwifes
• Maternal and Fetal Medicine Specialists
• Community OBGYN
• Critical Care
• Midwife Alliance
• Community Nurses
• Anesthesiology
• Healthcare Association of Hawaii
• Pediatrics
• Emergency Medical System
• Primary Care
• Public Health Nursing
• Psychiatry
• Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies
• Medical Examiner
• Department of Native Hawaiian Health
• John A Burns School of Medicine
• Hawaii Maternal and Infant Health Collaborative
• Department of Human Services

Mission and Goals
• Determine the causes of maternal mortality in Hawaii and identify public health and clinical interventions to improve systems of care
• Determine annual number of maternal deaths
• Identify trends and risk factors among maternal deaths
• Develop actionable strategies for prevention and intervention

Committee structure
• Committee Chair
• Multi-disciplinary volunteer membership

Successes:
• Legislation passed supported by Hawaii Maternal and Infant Health Collaborative
• Initial meeting Nov 2016 included Mock review and other Support from CDC
• Policies and Procedures draft document developed
• Contracted with an abstractor
• Trying to secure a contractor to help with coordination
• Obtained identified death certificate records from vital statistics
• Working with medical examiner to electronically transmit data to DOH

Challenges:
• Lack of dedicated staff
• Have not yet worked with securing hospital, provider, or other data
• Have not done a review yet (one scheduled for April 13)
• Neighbor Island representation and costs to travel
• Small number of deaths (identified 11 potential for CY 2015)
  • Have reported <5 annually to Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System

Contact Information
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