

ECU High Risk Maternity Clinic

Jeff Livingston, MD
Vice Chairman, Department of Ob/GYN
Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine



What is a High Risk Maternity Clinic?

- A venue where low income women with moderate to high risk pregnancies come for prenatal care.
- Regional Perinatal Center

What is a “High Risk” Pregnancy Doctor?

- Any provider can care for “high risk” pregnancies
- Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Specialist
- Perinatology not neonatology

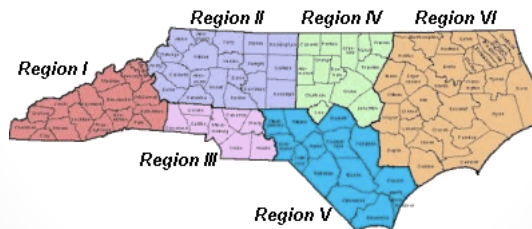
Who has a “High Risk” Pregnancy?

- Maternal conditions
 - Hypertensive, Obese, Non-compliant, Diabetic, Abusers of Substances
- Fetal conditions
 - Congenital anomalies (birth defects)
 - Genetic diseases
 - Complications of maternal disease
- Obstetrical conditions
 - Risk for preterm birth, problems with the placenta, prior poor outcomes
- Social conditions
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Where is Eastern North Carolina?

- Halifax, Northampton, Hertford, Gates, Camden, Currituck, Bertie, Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Nash, Edgecombe, Martin, Washington, Tyrrell, Dare, Wilson, Pitt, Beaufort, Hyde, Wayne, Greene, Craven, Pamlico, Jones, Carteret and Onslow

Perinatal Care Regions



<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/schs/images/pef>

Why ECU “High Risk Maternity Clinic”?

- 500 Maternal Deaths in US, 3 in Eastern NC in 2010*
- Infant Mortality is 3 times higher in the ECU catchment area. 158 infant deaths in Eastern NC in 2010*
- Significant racial disparities in birth outcomes.
- Estimate 6,400 women / year have at least one “high risk” factor
- Lots of money at stake...high rate of preterm birth=high neonatal costs often funded by NC medicaid (about \$300k per child born at 24-26 weeks)

• *US Center for Vital Statistics 2012 •

Why are we in need of financial support?

Independently, providing care for low income pregnant women is not a good business model.

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Why does it make financial sense for North Carolina?

- Prevention of 1-2 preterm births in the 1,500 pregnant women seen at the ECU Regional Perinatal Center more than pays for the entire grant.

What does NC get for \$325,000?

- A full service Regional Perinatal Center
- All appropriations go to non- physician salary support
 - Perinatal Nurses
 - Medical Assistants
 - Certified Fetal Sonologists
 - Certified Nutritionist / Diabetes educator
 - Licensed Social Worker
 - Office support staff

What does the clinic deliver?

- Access, Access, Access
 - Board certified MFM specialists
 - All referrals within 2 weeks of requested date
 - Accept all women who have high risk factors from all referral sources
 - Do not collect funds directly from women below US poverty level
- Evidence based methods that screen for and treat high risk patients
- Educate on 16 different topics during prenatal care

Funding of the ECU High
Risk Maternity Clinic
Should be Part of a
Perinatal Bundle