Hospital Survey on Antenatal Corticosteroid (ACS) Utilization Practices

Responses to the survey will be used by the New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative for planning a potential new quality improvement initiative with the March of Dimes Big 5 State Perinatal Collaborative if the need for an initiative is identified. Your individual hospital’s survey responses will not be shared with others nor identified in any report.

Why Antenatal Corticosteroids (ACS)? Hospitals and providers often report 100% compliance in administering ACS to all eligible pregnant women at 24 to 34 weeks gestation. However, when institutions have fully investigated ACS administration, they have uncovered gaps in utilization due to a lack of knowledge, pharmacy limitations, no standardized protocols for identifying preterm labor, and/or a lack of ACS documentation. In some hospitals, only 40% of eligible patients received ACS and in hospitals with the highest rates more than 90% of all eligible patients received ACS. Barriers and issues preventing optimal ACS treatment vary. By participating in this survey, your hospital may also identify areas for improvement in order to meet the new Joint Commission Perinatal Core Measure that will require all hospitals with over 1100 deliveries, as of January 2014, to report out on antenatal corticosteroid utilization.

We need your assistance. Please complete the following survey about your hospital’s efforts to identify those are risk of premature delivery, provide antenatal corticosteroids, and document patients who receive it. Where possible, your responses should represent the best combined opinions of both your hospital’s obstetrical and nursing leadership.

Date completed: ______________

How many deliveries in your hospital in 2012? ___________________________________

Hospital name:_______________________________________________________________

Hospital Address:
Street Line 1______________________________________________________________
Street Line 2______________________________________________________________
City______________________________________________________________
Zip Code __________________________________________________

Name of person completing this survey:___________________________________________

Title of person completing survey:______________________________________________

Occupation of person completing survey:__________________________________________

Primary email: ____________________________ Primary phone: ________________________

1. Who of the following were included in completing the survey? (Please check all that apply)
   □ Hospital Administrator
   □ Obstetrical Leadership
   □ OB Nurse Manager or Leadership
   □ Quality Improvement Staff

Hospital Survey on Antenatal Corticosteroid Utilization
Developed by the March of Dimes Big 5 State Perinatal Collaborative 2013
2. Starting at what gestational age does your hospital generally attempt to transfer all mothers to a referral center?  (Please check one best answer)

   - <36 weeks
   - <34 weeks
   - <32 weeks
   - <30 weeks
   - <28 weeks
   - Does not transfer out in general

3. What is your hospital’s status on reporting the quality measure on antenatal steroid utilization proposed by the Joint Commission: PC-03, Antenatal Steroids?  (Please check one best answer)

   - We have already collected the data and calculated the measure for our hospital
   - We are in the process of collecting data to calculate the measure now
   - We are planning to collect data and calculate the measure this year
   - We are planning to collect data and calculate the measure in the future
   - We are not planning to collect data and calculate the measure

4. Has your hospital implemented quality improvement initiatives to improve antenatal corticosteroids utilization?  (Please check all that apply)

   - Our hospital has NOT implemented any quality improvement initiatives on this issue  
     → Please go to Question 7
   - Implemented an initiative developed internally by our hospital
   - Implemented a state perinatal quality improvement initiative
   - Implemented The Joint Commission voluntary quality improvement measure
   - Participated in Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) initiative to improve
   - Implemented the March of Dimes Preterm Labor Assessment Toolkit
   - Other, please specify: ____________________________________________________________

5. When did you implement your initiative on antenatal corticosteroids utilization?  (Please check one best answer)

   - In the last year
   - In the last two years
   - In the last three years
   - More than three years ago
6. How would you assess the progress of your hospital’s quality improvement initiative to improve appropriate antenatal corticosteroid utilization in your hospital? (Please check one best answer)
   - Nothing has been done to improve ACS rates
   - Planning for the project has begun
   - Activity but no improvement
   - Changes tested, but no improvement
   - Modest improvement
   - Improvement
   - Significant improvement
   - Sustainable improvement
   - Outstanding sustainable results

7. Would your hospital be interested in any of the following resources and activities to improve and document antenatal corticosteroid utilization? (Please check all that apply)
   - Not interested in resources or activities to improve antenatal corticosteroid utilization
   - A “change package” as an online resource bundle containing tools and resources
   - Grand rounds
   - No-cost expert consultation
   - Data collection tools
   - Participation in a hospital quality improvement collaborative
   - Other ________________________________

8. How likely would your hospital be to participate in a voluntary quality improvement initiative to improve antenatal steroid use and documentation with other hospitals? (Please check one best answer)
   - Not at all likely
   - Somewhat likely
   - Likely
   - Very likely
   - Definitely
   - Don’t know

9. Which of the following have you found to be major barriers or issues at your hospital that prevent administering the recommended course of antenatal corticosteroids to patients delivering prior to 32 0/7 weeks where appropriate? (Please check all that apply)
   - Have not found barriers or issues at our hospital to administering the recommended course
   - Lack of understanding by providers about the recommended course
   - Differences in physician opinion on the timing and administration of the doses
   - Lack of a standardized hospital treatment protocol
   - Lack of attention to the issue by hospital leadership
Lack of a standardized preterm labor assessment guidelines for 24 to 34 week deliveries
Antenatal corticosteroids not readily available from the hospital pharmacy 24 hours per day for 7 days a week
Patients being transferred are not given antenatal corticosteroids prior to transport
Hospital staff do not collect or track antenatal corticosteroid utilization rates
Providers and/or hospital staff in our hospital do not believe that appropriately providing antenatal corticosteroids is a problem
Other

10. In your opinion, what percentage of women delivering babies in your hospital between 24 0/7 to 32 0/7 weeks gestation in 2013 did not receive antenatal corticosteroids prior to delivery? (Please check one best answer)
   □ 0 to 5% did not receive
   □ 6 to 10% did not receive
   □ 11 to 20% did not receive
   □ 21 to 30% did not receive
   □ More than 30% did not receive
   □ Don’t know or cannot tell

11. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “In our hospital, there is a large variability by obstetrical provider in the percentage of women who receive antenatal corticosteroids in a timely fashion when delivering babies between 24 0/7 to 32 0/7 weeks gestation.”
   □ Strongly agree
   □ Agree
   □ Not sure
   □ Disagree
   □ Strongly disagree

Do you have any suggestions about developing and implementing a quality improvement initiative on antenatal steroid use during pregnancy? ________________________________