Dear Colleague:

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is pleased to present the enclosed New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NYSPQC) Obstetrical Improvement Project Toolkit Reducing Early Elective Deliveries, Prenatal Education Addendum. The materials contained in the toolkit addendum are intended to accompany the previously supplied New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NYSPQC) Obstetrical Improvement Project Toolkit contained in two binders that were supplied to your facility in December 2014. This addendum specifically focuses on improving the receipt and documentation of patient education on the maternal and fetal risks of scheduled delivery without a medical indication between 36 0/7 and 38 6/7 weeks gestation. This toolkit addendum is being distributed to all New York State birthing hospitals, and is also available on the NYSPQC website (www.nyspqc.org). This toolkit addendum contains the resources that participating Regional Perinatal Centers (RPCs) in the NYSPQC Obstetrical Improvement Project OB Prenatal Education Project created and includes relevant presentations, data and quality improvement tools, web links and references. We hope that you will be able to utilize these tools and resources as you continue to reduce the occurrence of scheduled deliveries without a medical indication prior to 39 weeks, and sustain the gains already made by your facility in this area.

Throughout the NYSPQC Obstetrical Improvement Project, data was continually assessed for progress on various measures. Data between June 2012 and April 2014 on the percent of maternity patients educated on the maternal and fetal risks and benefits of scheduled delivery between 36 0/7 and 38 6/7 weeks remained steady, with little improvement, at approximately 50% in participating RPCs. Therefore, in June 2014, the project was expanded to interested RPCs to include improvement of prenatal education on the maternal and fetal risks and benefits of scheduled delivery between 36 0/7 and 38 6/7 weeks gestation. Emphasis was placed on providing this education in the mother's preferred language and increasing documentation of that education. Utilizing experience gained from the NYSPQC Obstetrical Improvement Project, the NYSPQC engaged 13 RPCs to collect enhanced measures and actively work with an affiliated prenatal care partner clinic to increase patient education as part of this expansion. Between June 2014 and June 2015 participating facilities reported a 30% improvement in prenatal education on the maternal and fetal risks and benefits of scheduled delivery between 36 0/7 and 38 6/7 weeks gestation.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the NYSPQC, please e-mail NYSPQC@health.ny.gov, call 518-473-9883 or visit the project’s Web site, www.nyspqc.org.

Sincerely,

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Enclosure