Kansas Maternal Mortality Review Committee

SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY (SMM)

Severe maternal morbidity (SMM) includes serious, often unexpected complications during labor and delivery that can have lasting effects on a woman's health.

Between 2018 and 2022, Kansas hospital data show that SMM affected women across the state, *with higher rates among women of color, those residing in low-income ZIP codes, and those covered by Medicaid.*

1 in 148 women who delivered in Kansas had experienced SMM

Of the 157,881 delivery hospitalizations of Kansas residents from 2018 to 2022, 1,067 deliveries involved one or more severe maternal morbidities (SMM).

Among women who experienced SMM during delivery, the most frequent indicators were:

- **Disseminated intravascular coagulation**
  14.8 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations
- **Acute renal failure**
  13.1 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations
- **Acute respiratory distress syndrome**
  12.2 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations
- **Sepsis**
  11.1 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations
- **Hysterectomy**
  9.1 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations

Severe Maternal Morbidity by Race

The SMM rate for non-Hispanic Black women was 105.6 per 100,000 delivery hospitalizations:

75.0%
higher than the rate for non-Hispanic White women (60.4)

35.5%
higher than the rate for Hispanics (78.0)

32.8%
higher than the rate for non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islanders (79.8)

The SMM rate for non-Hispanic Black women was significantly higher than that of non-Hispanic Whites and Hispanics.

Note: The number of non-Hispanic Native Americans was too small to calculate a SMM rate.

Other Contributing Factors

40+

SMM rates were **highest among women age 40 and older:** 156.5 per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations.

Women living in low-income ZIP codes were more likely to experience SMM.

Women enrolled in Medicaid were more likely to experience SMM.

While we took steps to minimize risk of identifying women, families and communities may recognize a death in our data, and we hope that it is viewed as honoring their lives through the potential opportunities for preventing future deaths.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

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