Perspectives on the Creation and Implementation of a Maternal Cardiac Care Team and Pathway at a Tertiary Care Medical Center

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Why was the Team created?

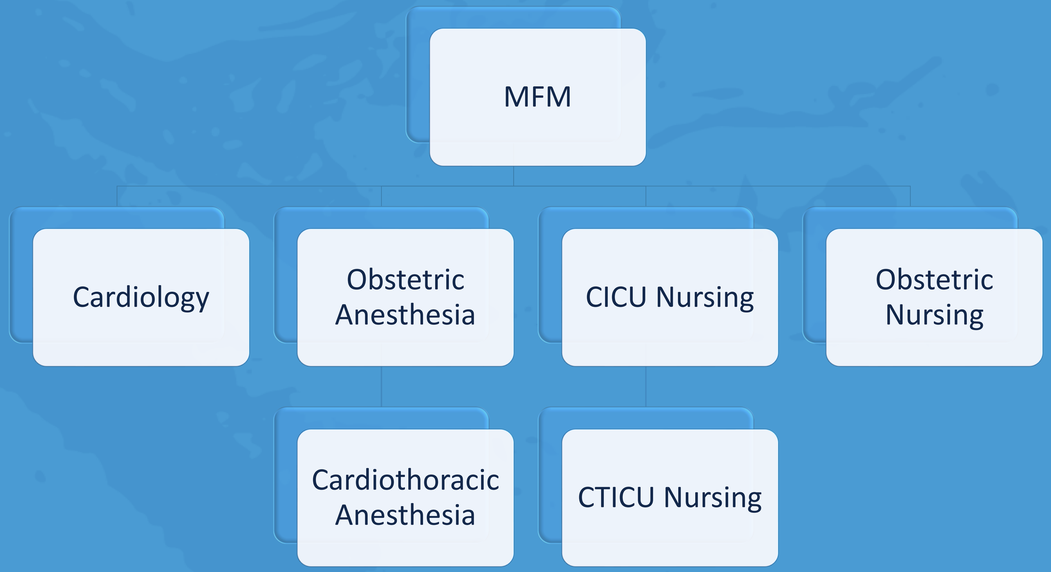
-Between 1987-2015, Cardiovascular Disease as cause of pregnancy related deaths rose from 7.2 to 17.2 per 100,000 live births[1]

-Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committees indicate as much as 22-25% of maternal deaths between 2002-2011 were linked to cardiovascular disease with possibly 25% of these being preventable[2]

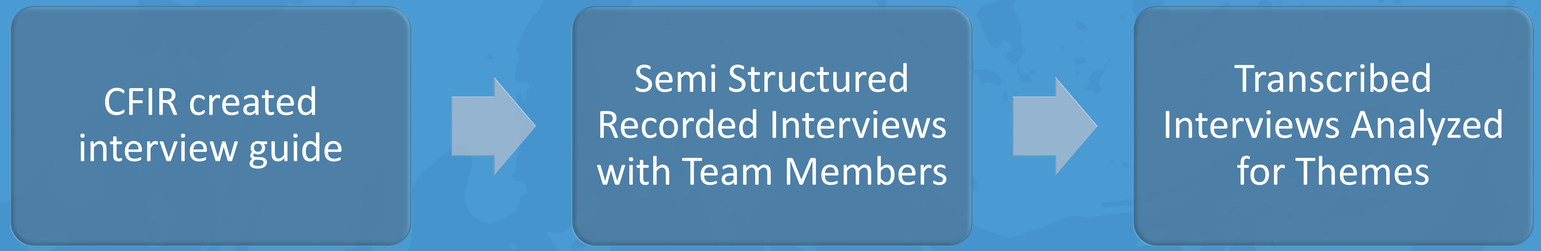
Nationwide and UNC Response

-SOAP, ACOG, and AHA encourage formation of multidisciplinary teams to address this population[2-4]

-2021, UNC Pregnancy Heart Team created comprised of MFM, Obstetric and Cardiothoracic Anesthesia, Cardiology, Obstetric and Cardiac Nursing



Qualitative Assessment of Team Formation



- IRB-approved study to understand creation, modification, and implementation of a clinical care pathway
- Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) tool utilized to create semi structured interview guide[5-6]
- Original team members underwent recorded interviews which were transcribed, then inductively coded into categories and grouped into themes based on research questions

Major Themes

Recurring Ideas/Concerns from Team Members

1. Why was the team created? What external and internal needs were being addressed?
2. What were the key components of the pathway? Core and peripheral team members? Referral indications?
3. What were the barriers to creating the new team and pathway?
4. The perceived success of the team. How did it benefit patients and the providers?
5. Where do we go forward? How do we improve?

References

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