



Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series

2024 FEB CCSS: Clinical Considerations and Current Trends in Women's Health

2024 FEB CCSS S03: Implementation Journey of Postpartum Hemorrhage Bundle and Walk-in Contraception Services Resource List

The complexities of pregnancy and dentistry is reviewed in [A Literature Review on Risk Management during Dental Surgical Procedures](#) (2021). The goal of the study was to conduct a critical review of published literature regarding pregnancy and dentistry, while identifying the most frequent oral diseases encountered during pregnancy, and their correlation to adverse pregnancy events. The authors also review the safe dental treatments that can be performed during pregnancy. The authors concluded that due to the increased inflammatory and immune body responses that occur during pregnancy, periodontal conditions are often aggravated during pregnancy. The evidence from the literature review was conflicting regarding an association between periodontitis and adverse pregnancy outcomes.

In the article [Postpartum Hemorrhage Care Bundles to Improve Adherence to Guideline: A WHO Technical Consultation](#) (2020), the authors aim to systematically develop evidence-based bundles for care of postpartum hemorrhage (PPH). An international technical consultation was conducted in 2017 to develop draft bundles of clinical interventions for PPH, taken from WHO's 2012 and 2017 PPH recommendations. The consultation led to the definition of two care bundles for facility implementation. The "first response to PPH bundle" comprises uterotonics, isotonic crystalloids, tranexamic acid, and uterine massage. The "response to refractory PPH bundle" comprises compressive measures (aortic or bimanual uterine compression), the non-pneumatic antishock garment, and intrauterine balloon tamponade (IBT). Advocacy, training, teamwork, communication, and use of best clinical practices were defined as PPH bundle supporting elements.

Women veterans are a fast-growing population in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and ensuring reproductive service availability is a VHA priority. The authors of [Women's Health Provider Perspectives on Reproductive Services Provision in the Veterans Health Administration](#) (2023) sought to explore barriers and facilitators to VHA reproductive service provision from women's health providers' perspectives. A mixed-methods study was conducted with implementation of qualitative provider interviews and quantitative surveys on training, comfort and knowledge of reproductive services. The providers' pool was from the Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center and nine VHA community-based outpatient clinics, including support staff to the clinical care providers. In conclusion the authors noted addressing barriers to VHA reproductive healthcare provision may overcome reproductive service variations related to clinic location and improve reproductive health outcomes for women veterans.

Women comprise approximately one-fifth of the total force in the U.S. Military, as noted by the authors of [Improving the Health and Readiness of Military Women](#) (2023). Gynecologic and reproductive health issues not only affect the health and wellness of individual servicewomen but may also impact the mission of the DoD. Unintended pregnancies can result in adverse maternal and infant outcomes and can negatively impact the careers of military women and mission readiness. Gynecologic conditions such as abnormal uterine bleeding, fibroids, and endometriosis can also limit women's optimal health and performance, and a significant proportion of military women have indicated their desire to manage and/or suppress menstrual cycles, especially when deployed. Access to the full range of contraceptive methods is an important strategy to allow women to achieve their reproductive goals and address other health concerns. This report reviews rates of unintended pregnancy and contraceptive utilization among servicewomen and examines factors that influence these measures of health.



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