



Perinatal Research and Wellness Center

Hello Perinatal Research and Wellness Center Team!



Happy April!

Please let us know if we can connect you with resources or share news on our newsletters or [website](#).

-PRWC

UPCOMING MEETINGS



Perinatal Research and Wellness Center Scholarship Meeting

- Wednesday May 12th, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Please inquire for Zoom meeting invite link and pertinent documents
-

UK NEWS + EVENTS



Congratulations to **Caroline Jenkins**, UK medical student (Class of 2024), on her acceptance to the competitive **Professional Student Mentored Research Fellowship Program (PSMRF)**, under the mentorship of **Dr. Niraj Chavan!**

- Caroline's research project Understanding the Impact of Patient Education for Preterm Birth Prevention in Appalachian Kentucky, is part of Dr. Chavan's AMAG funded project Developing and Implementing a Pilot Program of Universal Cervical Length through Virtual Education and outreach (CLEVER) to address Disparities in Preterm Birth: The CLEVER study. Through this fellowship, Caroline will work with the team to cultivate strong relationships with key stakeholders at the participating community-based clinics, perform medical record reviews, collect data in REDCap, disseminate study materials and assist in the preparation of abstracts or manuscripts of study findings.
- The PSMRF program is a mentored research fellowship for professional students offered through the Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS). This 12 to 18 month fellowship provides the student with a \$3,000 stipend for participating in a CTS faculty mentored research experience. <https://www.ccts.uky.edu/education-training/career-development-and-training-programs/professional-student-mentored-research>

UK Office of Research Integrity: Zoom Office Hours

- April 29, 2021: 11-12pm
- ZOOM: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/242100365>
- Come with questions about ongoing research, developing research projects, the E-IRB system, and general IRB operations.

Request a Phone or In-person Consultation with the Office of Research integrity.

They are for studies in development as well as approved research projects.

- <https://redcap.uky.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=WHK9CJPTMF>

CAFE + NURSING Partnership to train more rural nurses

- Beginning this fall, the Ag Nursing Scholars Program for Kentucky Health and Wellness will provide a way for students in majors in CAFE's Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition to seamlessly earn a second degree in nursing. Students will earn a Bachelor of

Science degree in either dietetics or human nutrition from CAFE and then pursue an accelerated Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the College of Nursing.

The Office of the Vice President for Research

[Spring 2021 Lunch & Learn Series](#)

All sessions held from 12-1pm via Zoom link: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/9251686420>

- *Title: How to Apply For and Follow an Animal Protocol*
- Speaker: Mark Suckow (Director, Office of the Attending Veterinarian)
- April 28, 2021

- *Title: Access to Advanced Technology- The UK Core Facilities*
- Speaker: Alan Daugherty (Associate Vice President for Research)
- May 5, 2021

STATE NEWS + EVENTS



Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Maternal and Child Health

[2020 Maternal Mortality Review 2020 Annual Report](#)

Key Recommendations Prenatal and Pregnancy:

- Providing comprehensive healthcare evaluations regardless of status during prenatal care
- Educating providers of the pregnancy treatment options for SUD care in Kentucky while pregnant through www.findhelpnowky.org
- Developing a standard care of women with substance use issues
- Having a Kentucky all schedule prescription electronic report (KASPER) available at the first prenatal visit

- Providing prenatal care in substance use disorder treatment centers flagged if a pregnant woman comes for medication assisted treatment (MAT) but has no prenatal care (PNC)
- Tracking source of patient prescriptions and efficacy of dosage prescribed
- Continuing maternal respiratory and cardiac evaluation throughout gestation
- Creating a consultation team related to opioid usage and intervention
- Documenting through considerate and careful means of which providers saw patient during pregnancy • Recommending involuntary treatment when necessary

2021 Tobacco Control Conference Webinar Series!

The series will begin with [*E-cigarette education in schools: Life science versus tobacco control approaches*](#) on Tuesday, April 27th from 3:30 to 4:45 pm ET.

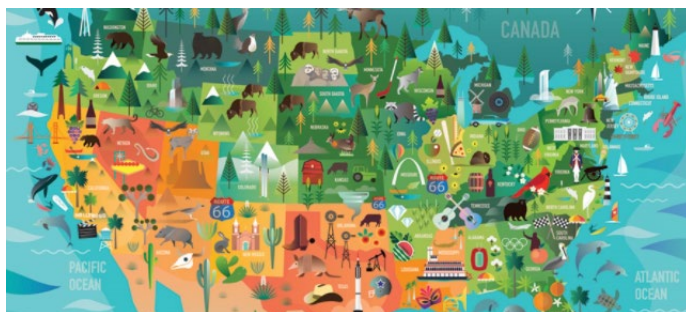
Register at tinyurl.com/KTCC2021!

Speakers will be Sierrah Miley and Dr. Melinda Ickes from our partner [#iCANendthetrend](#), award-winning Perry County Schools teacher Craig Wilmhoff, and Dana Haine and Elise Hickman from Beyond Nicotine, a program developed through UNC Chapel Hill's [Center for Public Engagement with Science](#).

Kentucky Public Health Association Annual Conference “Building Resilient Healthy Communities”

- Held virtually April 21, and 22

NATIONAL NEWS



Office of Minority Health: Think Cultural Health offering a new, free and accredited e-learning program, [Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services \(CLAS\) in Maternal Health Care](#).

- Aims to support the Action Plan's call for maternal healthcare professionals to deliver services that respect and respond to patients' culture and language preferences by training them on delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS).
- Physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and certified midwives can earn up to 2 continuing education hours upon completion of this free, self-paced program.

Perinatal Connect Conference: Engaging with Rural Communities to Improve Maternal Mental Health Outcomes

- Virtual Conference
- April 23, 24 2021
- [Register FREE here](#)

12th Annual Latino Health Equity Conference

- June 24 & 25 2021
- Virtual
- Provides a forum to focus on individual and community issues addressing health equity through research, programs and policies.

College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)

- [83rd Annual Scientific Meeting Virtual, June 19-23, 2021](#)

Marce' of North America 2021 Annual Meeting (MONA)

- Virtually on October 21-24
- [Free Black Maternal Mental Health Webinar available here](#)

Data for COVID-19 during pregnancy [here](#)

CDC is collaborating with state, local, and territorial health departments and external partners to better understand COVID-19 during pregnancy. Health departments that are notified of COVID-19 cases in pregnant women may collect more information on these women using an optional module in addition to a case reporting form. Findings will be rapidly translated into updated clinical guidance for pregnant women and infants.

Opportunities + Deadlines



Foundation for Women's Wellness-Research Awards

- Supporting short term studies regarding women's health concerns
- Grants up to \$25K
- Closing date April 26, 2021
- [Link for Full Announcement](#)

[RFA-HD-21-033 Community Engaged Research on Pregnancy Related and Associated Infections and Sepsis Morbidity and Mortality \(UG3/UH3 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#)

- Department of Health and Human Services-NIH
- Due by: May 20, 2021
- \$3000000 between 3-5 grants
- Funding to support interdisciplinary community-engaged research designed to reduce or eliminate infections and sepsis as causes of pregnancy-related or associated morbidity and mortality (PRAMM) in regions of the United States with high rates of maternal mortality.

HRSA-21-081 Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies Program

- Due: June 4, 2021
- Up to 1,000,000 per year
- The purpose of the RMOMS program is to improve access to and continuity of maternal and obstetrics care in rural communities.

UKY CON Pilot Program

- Applications due: Feb 1 and July 1
- The February cycle will only accept applications from faculty members who have not had prior R01 or equivalent funding (e.g., PCORI, AHA, VA).
- \$30K to be awarded each cycle
- The July cycle will accept applications from all CON faculty. Applications from faculty members with prior R01 or equivalent funding will be considered only if a new line of research that has not been previously funded is proposed - the application must include

a statement describing how the proposed research differs from previously funded research.

NIH- Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy, Uptake, and Implementation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities

- **First Available Due Date:** February 05, 2021
- **Expiration Date:** January 08, 2022
- Link to full announcement [here](#)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Call for Proposals

Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health

- Release Date: April 15, 2020 | Application Deadline: Open
- https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2020/pioneering-ideas-2020-exploring-the-future-to-build-a-culture-of-health.html?rid=0032S000029fq3XQAAQ&et_cid=2046258

[Evidence for Action: Investigator-Initiated Research to Build a Culture of Health](#)

- Proposal Deadline: Open
- Funding that expands the evidence needed to build a culture of health

CCTS Small Grant Opportunity

- Up to \$5000 to help strengthen applications for extramural research grants.
- Must be full time faculty to apply
- <https://www.ccts.uky.edu/media/1621>

Fast Funding for COVID-19 Science

- If you are a scientist at an academic institution currently working on a COVID-19 related project and in need of funding, we invite you to apply for a Fast Grant.
- \$10k to \$500k and decisions are made in under 48 hours.
You must be:
- A PI at an academic institution, already working on a project that could help with the COVID-19 pandemic within the next six months. We require that a Fast Grant be used solely to expedite COVID-19-related science.
- <https://fastgrants.org/>

Additional Items



Caffrey, A., McNulty, H., Rollins, M. *et al.* [Effects of maternal folic acid supplementation during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy on neurocognitive development in the child: an 11-year follow-up from a randomised controlled trial.](#) *BMC Med* **19**, 73 (2021).
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12916-021-01914-9>

- These authors aimed to evaluate the effect of Folic Acid supplementation throughout pregnancy on cognitive performance and brain function in the child.
- Study involved a follow-up neurocognitive performance investigation of 68 eleven-year-old children in Ireland whose mothers had participated in randomized trial of FA supplementation in 2nd and 3^d trimesters [FASST trial]. They received either 400µg/day or placebo from 14th gestational week.
- Conclusion: FA supplementation beyond the first trimester can benefit neurocognitive development children.

Gilbert, P. & Rudnick, C. (2021) Pre-Print Content: [Newborn Antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 detected in cord blood after maternal vaccination.](#) doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.02.03.21250579>

- **Case presentation** A vigorous, healthy, full-term female was born to a COVID-19 naïve mother who had received a single dose of mRNA vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 three weeks prior to delivery. Cord blood antibodies (IgG) were detected to the S-protein of SARS-CoV-2 at time of delivery.
- **Conclusion** Here, we report the first known case of an infant with SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibodies detectable in cord blood after maternal vaccination.

Harvey EM, McNeer E, McDonald MF, et al. [Association of Preterm Birth Rate With COVID-19 Statewide Stay-at-Home Orders in Tennessee.](#) *JAMA Pediatr.* Published online March 15, 2021. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2020.6512

- “In summary, there were lower odds of preterm birth during Tennessee’s stay-at-home order compared with previous years. Future research could explore whether other US

states observed similar reductions, and how obstetric interventions for fetal and maternal complications, or lack thereof, may have contributed to the findings. Reducing preterm birth is a public health priority and understanding mechanisms to reduce preterm births may lead to more effective interventions.”

[Neurotoxicity of Ortho-Phthalates: Recommendations for Critical Policy Reforms to Protect Brain Development in Children](#)

[Stephanie M. Engel](#) PhD, [Heather B. Patisaul](#) PhD, [Charlotte Brody](#) RN, [Russ Hauser](#) MD, ScD, MPH, [Ami R. Zota](#) ScD, MS, [Deborah H. Bennet](#) PhD, [Maureen Swanson](#)

- “To protect child brain development, ortho-phthalates need to be removed from consumer products that contribute to exposure of pregnant women, women of reproductive age, infants, and children. We summarize the epidemiological evidence on adverse neurodevelopmental effects following prenatal exposure to ortho-phthalates, discuss sources of exposure and what is known about potential mechanisms, and propose urgently needed reforms to substantially reduce exposures to ortho-phthalates over critical periods of child brain development.”

Woodworth, K.R., Reynolds, M.R., Burkel, V. *et al.* A Preparedness Model for Mother–Baby Linked Longitudinal Surveillance for Emerging Threats. *Matern Child Health J* **25**, 198–206 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-020-03106-y>

- “This report describes the methods of the Surveillance for Emerging Threats to Mothers and Babies Network (SET-NET), a novel and flexible approach of linked-longitudinal mother–baby surveillance.”
- “SET-NET can rapidly assess the impact of existing, re-emerging, and novel infectious disease threats to mothers and babies, to inform clinical guidance and practice, and direct public health action.”

WHO Labour Care Guide: A tool for implementing recommendations on intrapartum care for a positive childbirth experience

- A tool that aims to support good-quality, evidence-based, respectful care during labour and childbirth, irrespective of the setting or level of health care.
 - **Powerpoint Slides available here**
-

The Perinatal Research and Wellness Center Purpose

The purpose of the center is multifaceted and includes using translational research to inform women, providers, and policymakers about current perinatal issues; empowering women to optimize health through positive behavioral change; and creating and tailoring innovative programs for vulnerable families to improve maternal and child health, all while developing the next generation of perinatal researchers.



Website: <https://www.uky.edu/perinatalresearch/>