



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

**LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON PERINATAL CARE AND  
PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY**

**November 17, 2022 1:00 PM-3:00 PM**

**Location:**

Louisiana State Capitol, 900 N. Third Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802  
Press Room

Masking recommended due to elevated COVID case rates

**Link for public viewing:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87229048554?pwd=ODBPckRVM0ZVa1IzdkMweTJLRGhVdz09>

**Phone: 646-558-8656      Conference Code: 650731**

**Meeting Minutes**

I. Welcome & introductions / overview of process for public comment

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Present or Absent</b>
Scott Barrilleaux	Chair - Perinatologist	Present
Steve Spedale	Neonatologist	Present
Rodney Wise	Private Health Care Administrator	Present
Amy Zapata	Public Health Care Administrator	Present
Leslie Lewis	Nutritionist	Present
Amar Nijjar	Neonatologist	Absent
Courtney Campbell	Pediatrician	Present
Aundria Cannon	Nurse Practitioner in Women's Health	Present
Erica Moss	Neonatal Nurse	Virtual
Joey Biggio	Perinatologist	Present

Sen. Regina Barrow	Senator	Absent
Rep. Rhonda Butler	Representative	Absent
Emily Stevens	Social Worker	Absent
Marshall St. Amant	Perinatologist	Virtual

Guest	
Amanda Dumas	Frankie Robertson
Amanda Perry	Julie Emory
Amy Ladley	Julie Donahue
Andi Abramson	Karli Boggs
Ayesha Umrigar	Kerrie Redmond
A. Cloyd	Lyn Kieltyka
Becky Majdoch	Martha Hennegan
Berkley Durbin	Mathew Wallace
Brittany McAllister	Meshawn Tarver
Cara McCarthy	Paulette Carter
Cheri Johnson	Randall Leggett
Danielle Mistretta	Renee Antoine
Dionka Pierce	Shelly Ryan Gray
Dr. James Hussey	Tonya Hunter
Ellie Shilling	Veronica Gillispie-Bell

- II. Review/approval of previous meeting notes
- a. Minutes from the September 15, 2022 meeting were reviewed but not approved; no quorum present
  - b. Meeting minutes pending Commission approval:
    - November 18, 2021,
    - January 20, 2022,
    - March 17, 2022,
    - May 19, 2022, and
    - July 21, 2022.
- III. Operationalizing participation in Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative (LaPQC)
- a. The LaPQC focuses on systems and culture change that promotes safe, equitable, and dignified birth. Currently, 47 of 48 birthing hospitals in Louisiana participate in at least one LaPQC initiative. However, “participation” has never been clearly defined, as required by Federal regulations.
  - b. Suggested language – The Louisiana Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality defines participation in the state perinatal quality collaborative as

reporting national Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) measures that allow Louisiana to be designated as an “AIM” state. Of note, this language does not include a breastfeeding metric which does not reflect the work of *The Gift*. We would also recommend including “and national breastfeeding metrics”.

- c. Discussion and voting on the suggested language will take place at the January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting, if there is a quorum present.

#### IV. Systems of care

- a. Free Standing Birth Centers – Health Standards recently met with stakeholders regarding rulemaking. A new notice of intent is pending
- b. Maternal levels of care – Some language changes were needed; currently with LDH legal for review. The Notice of Intent should be published in the February register. Final rule slated to be published in May or June.
- c. Doula Registry – Currently stalled due to a lack of a quorum at registry board meetings.

#### V. Medicaid Medical Advisory Committee

- a. Dr. Shantel Hebert-Magee has been hired as the Medicaid Chief Medical Officer.
- b. All providers need to be enrolled in Medicaid portal. Those not enrolled may have their claims denied.
- c. Post COVID-19 pandemic, some Medicaid reimbursements may be rolled back, specifically reimbursement for some types of in-person visits. Telemedicine visits will continue to be reimbursed.
- d. As of January 1, 2023, Humana will join Louisiana Medicaid’s MCO network. Some clients will be reassigned to this new MCO. Families will remain together; pregnant people will not be reassigned during pregnancy.

#### VI. 2023 Workgroups

- a. Reviewed legislative mandate for the Perinatal Commission and discussed proposed functional areas (guidelines, research, policy). At the January 19, 2023 meeting, Commissioners will discuss the plan for selecting areas of focus for workgroups.

#### VII. Legislative implementation

- a. Study Commission on Maternal Health and Wellbeing - Directive of the commission is to research and make recommendations on connecting pregnant women and new mothers, particularly in rural and underserved areas, with resources for the health and wellbeing of the mother and child. Policy proposals are being documented in a February 2023 report

#### VIII. Membership

- a. Vacancies
  - Family Practitioner
  - Family Planning Representative
- b. Process for applying
  - Email [PerinatalCommission@la.gov](mailto:PerinatalCommission@la.gov) to express interest or nominate someone.
  - Fill out an application with the Office of the Governor:  
<https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/form/home/14>

#### IX. Announcements

#### X. Adjourn

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to [PerinatalCommission@la.gov](mailto:PerinatalCommission@la.gov) and must be received at least three hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.