

Enhancing Maternal Sepsis Recognition

A Multidisciplinary Education and Simulation Initiative



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Problem Statement

Maternal sepsis is a complication that affects women worldwide. Sepsis has consistently contributed to maternal mortality and morbidity. The diagnosis of sepsis is difficult due to the physiological changes that occur during pregnancy. 1

Focus Area

Early interventions and use of a predictor can help to improve patient outcomes and help to decrease the cases of maternal sepsis.

Staff education and awareness of maternal sepsis and its clinical signs are essential for prompt recognition and timely treatment.

To support early identification and intervention, all labor and delivery staff were required to complete maternal sepsis education aimed at increasing knowledge and improving early detection of sepsis.

Emergency departments frequently care for pregnant and postpartum patients. It is essential to provide targeted education to emergency department staff to support early recognition of maternal sepsis and prompt implementation of appropriate interventions.

Measures

Increase the number of staff who receive maternal sepsis education

Goals:

- OB Nursing 100%
- ED Nursing 80%
- OB Providers (Including APs): 100%

Key Interventions

Review available education modules to ensure they are appropriate and relevant for labor and delivery and emergency room staff.

Engage staff to obtain buy-in and promote the importance of increasing education related to maternal sepsis.

Provide maternal sepsis education to staff and allow adequate time for completion.

Conduct an interdisciplinary simulation involving both Labor and Delivery and Emergency Department staff to support early recognition of the signs and symptoms of maternal sepsis and reinforce timely, appropriate interventions.

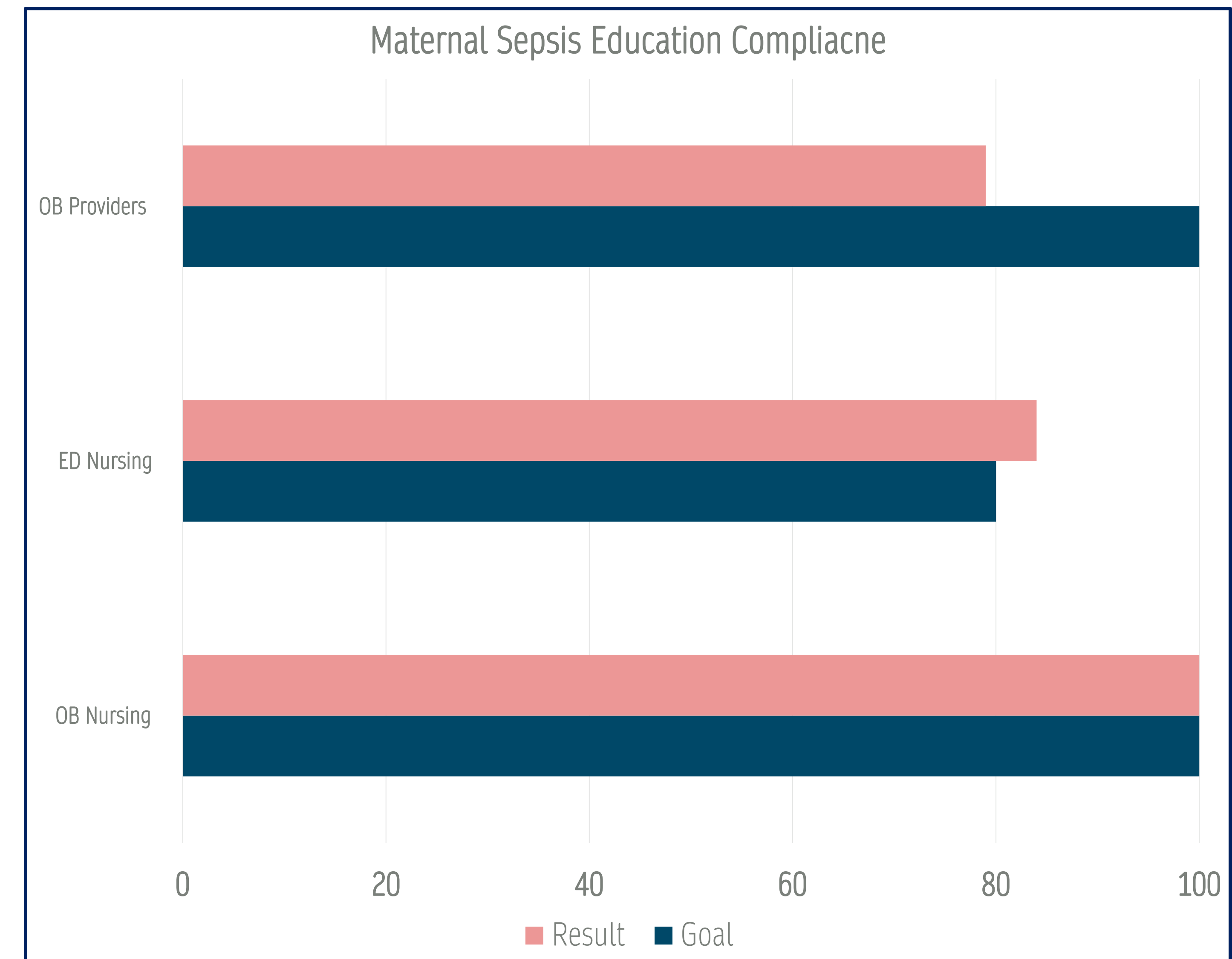
Status

Reinforce the importance of completing required education through targeted reeducation for staff who did not meet established completion goals.

Partner with Information Technology to design, develop, and implement an obstetric-specific early warning screening tool to support early identification of maternal sepsis.

Continue interdisciplinary simulations focused on recognition, escalation, and management of maternal sepsis to promote collaboration and clinical readiness.

Results



References

1. Manigrasso, J., Desai, N., & Naoum, E. (2024). Maternal sepsis: background, diagnosis and management. *BJA education*, 24(11), 389–398.