Designing, Implementing and Evaluating a Perinatal Substance Use Portfolio: Insights and Recommendations 10 Years Later

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Introduction

Gap identified in regional priorities & professional development related to perinatal substance use (SU) & newborn care.

Established portfolio that encompasses education, consultation, & collaboration to address this important health concern.

Timeline

2012 2013

2014

2017

2020

2022

Hired as CMNRP Perinatal Consultant; Gap identified

Completed an
Advanced Clinical
Practice Fellowship,
Leadership Stream,
Registered Nurses'
Association of Ontario

Designed & piloted
CMNRP Perinatal
Substance Use
Workshop; Added to
regional professional
development program

Formed CMNRP
Perinatal Substance
Use Expert Panel;
developed practice
resources & website

COVID-19 Pandemic: Adapted CMNRP Workshops to blended online; Formed Rapid Response Taskforce

Formed CMNRP
Perinatal Mental
Health Community
of Practice

Strategies & Outcomes

Interprofessional SU Workshops

24 Facilitated; 260 Participants





SU Expert Panel

18 Members; 3 Resources





Mental Health Community of Practice

25 Members; Bimonthly meetings





Goal

To promote and support the integration of evidence-based, person-centred, trauma-informed, & culturally safe care for pregnant and parenting people who use substances and their newborns.



Insights

SU workshop is now embedded in nursing orientation.



Pandemic was catalyst to shift to blended online which expanded reach. Evaluations were highly rated.

Mental health challenges & substance use frequently co-exist & need to be concurrently addressed. It is essential to collaborate with people with lived experience & professionals with diverse expertise.

Acknowledgements

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario.

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For More Information

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Recommendations

Integrate trauma & violence-informed care and measures to reduce bias. Utilize gender-inclusive language.

Enable culturally safe care for Black, Indigenous & People of Colour.

Invest in infrastructure to gather & share resources & services.

Create care bundles including well-defined referral pathways.

