

Promoting Safe and Respectful Maternity Care for All Patients

Our Commitment to You

What does it mean to give and receive respectful care during labor and delivery?

Maternal care teams throughout Illinois are coming together to address inequities in healthcare, and to improve birth experiences for all patients.

We are committed to providing you safe and respectful care. Respectful care ensures that patients receive patient-centered care, feel respected and listened to, and the individual needs and preferences of all birthing people are valued and met.

We believe that respectful care is an essential component of what it takes for all patients to thrive.



Supporting respectful care for all patients:

The Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative (ILPQC) works with patients, physicians, midwives, nurses, hospitals, and community groups to reduce maternal disparities and promote birth equity by ensuring all patients receive safe, high-quality compassionate, and respectful care.

Here are our respectful care commitments to every patient

We commit to...



1. **Treating you with dignity and respect** throughout your hospital stay
2. **Introducing ourselves and our role** on your care team to you and your support persons upon entering the room
3. **Learning your goals for delivery and postpartum:** What is important to you for labor and birth? What are your concerns regarding your birth experience? How can we best support you?
4. **Working to understand you**, your background, your home life and your health history so we can make sure you receive the care you need during your birth and recovery
5. **Communicating effectively** across your health care team to ensure the best care for you
6. **Partnering with you for all decisions** so that you can make choices that are right for you
7. **Practicing “active listening”**—to ensure that you, and your support persons are heard
8. **Valuing personal boundaries and respecting your dignity and modesty at all times**, including asking your permission before entering a room or touching you
9. **Recognizing your prior experiences with healthcare may affect how you feel during your birth**, we will strive at all times to provide safe, equitable and respectful care
10. **Making sure you are discharged after delivery with an understanding of postpartum warning signs**, where to call with concerns, and with postpartum follow-up care visits arranged
11. **Ensuring you are discharged with the skills, support and resources** to care for yourself and your baby
12. **Protecting your privacy** and keeping your medical information confidential
13. **Being ready to hear any concerns** or ways that we can improve your care