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Educational Opportunities and Benefits of a Maternal Fetal Medicine-Based Preconception Clinic

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Poster presented at the 2023 Spotlight on Scholarship at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska.

Abstract

Purpose: Describe the content and continuum of inter-professional educational opportunities in a Maternal Fetal Medicine-based Preconception Clinic (MFM PRECON) clinic. Background: Ambulatory education is an underemphasized component of the ACGME milestones. ACOG has recommended Plan for Appropriate Tailored Healthcare in pregnancy (PATH) changes to content of prenatal care. Methods: Retrospective chart review of patient EMR records in Michigan Medicine MFM PRECON from 2018-2020. A Qualtrics satisfaction survey was sent to MFM PRECON referring providers. Results: Many diverse medical problems were evaluated in the MFM PRECON clinic. Lab and imaging orders were placed. Almost 40% of patients counseled were prescribed folic acid, approximately 12% were advised to begin taking a prenatal vitamin in anticipation of pregnancy, and numerous medications were evaluated, stopped, changed or started. Approximately 20% of patients were further referred to other subspecialty providers. Referring clinicians report strong satisfaction with MFM PRECON in the following domains: useful in subsequent care, useful in giving recommendations to follow, changed practice based on MFM PRECON recommendations, increased provider comfort in caring for common high-risk conditions, saved time in caring for high risk patients, and patients appreciated and benefited from the MFM PRECON consultation. Discussion: Subspecialty ambulatory clinics provide unique opportunities for medical education. MFM PRECON offered a unique educational curriculum for teaching the content of prenatal care, the ACOG PATH recommendations, and the content of MFM specific PRECON care. Milestones addressed for medical student, resident, and fellow education: complications of pregnancy, complex genetic counseling; coordination and transitions of care; physician role in health care systems, patient centered evidence-based and informed counseling; shared decision making and inter-professional, team and health system communication.

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