Supporting Respectful Care for All Birthing People

The New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NYSPOC), an initiative led by the New York State Department of Health, aims to provide the best, safest, and most equitable care for pregnant and postpartum people and infants in New York State. This is accomplished by collaborating with birthing hospitals and centers, perinatal care providers, professional organizations, and other key stakeholders to improve outcomes through the translation of evidence-based guidelines to clinical practice.

Our Respectful Care Commitments to Every Birthing Person

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. Recognizing your prior experiences with health care may affect how you feel during your birth. We will strive at all times to provide safe, equitable, and respectful care.
6. Communicating effectively across your health care team to ensure the best care for you.
7. Partnering with you for all decisions so that you can make choices that are right for you.
8. Practicing active listening to ensure that you and your support persons are heard.
9. Being ready to hear any concerns or ways that we can improve your care.
10. Valuing personal boundaries and respecting your dignity and modesty at all times, including asking your permission before entering a room or touching you.
11. 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 scheduled.
12. Discharging you with the skills, support, and resources to care for yourself and your baby.
13. Protecting your privacy and keeping your medical information confidential.

The information on this poster was adapted from the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative (ILPQC).