

CHAMPS Webinar: June 17th, 2020

Changes and Challenges to Newborn Care: COVID and Beyond

Presenters:

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ZOOM Meeting Info:

<https://bostonmedicalcenter.zoom.us/j/96574319408>

Meeting ID: 965 7431 9408

Dial-in by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US, +1 301 715 8592 US, +1 346 248 7799 US

Use the chat box for questions during the presentation.

COVID-19: Challenges and Lessons Learned

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Disclosures

- No relevant financial disclosures

Outline:

- General overview of Coronavirus/COVID
- Antepartum
- Intrapartum
- Postpartum
- What remains

Coronavirus

- Coronaviruses - A large family of viruses that can infect birds and mammals, including humans.
- The newly identified coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, has caused a worldwide pandemic of respiratory illness, called COVID-19.

Coronavirus

- The novel coronavirus can be spread from person to person.
- There is no vaccine.
- Prevention involves frequent hand-washing, covering coughs, staying home when sick, social distancing, and wearing a face covering if social distancing is not possible.

Coronavirus/COVID 19

- Symptoms: cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, unexplained loss of taste or smell, diarrhea and headache. COVID-19 can be severe, and some cases have caused death

COVID and Pregnancy

- Pregnancy is a state of partial immune suppression which makes pregnant women more vulnerable to viral infections.
- The current available data suggest pregnant women appear to have the same risk of COVID-19 as non-pregnant adults.

COVID and Pregnancy

- High numbers of asymptomatic carriers.
 - Racial/Ethnic disparities (infection rates)
- Impact of testing – Public health benefit

COVID and Pregnancy

- Unintended consequences
 - “Fear Factor”- impact on routine visits, hospital deliveries
 - Stigma associated with infection.
 - Refusal of testing.
 - Isolation during delivery and postpartum.

COVID and Pregnancy

- Extreme precautions are necessary in order to limit the spread of the virus and ensure protection for both the patient and the healthcare team.
 - Personal
 - Procedural



PIC•COLLAGE

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Medical Complications

- Lab findings
- Preeclampsia masquerader
- Clotting issues and anticoagulation

Treatment

- Currently, there is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19.
- Treatment is supportive.
 - Proning
 - Remdesivir

Treatment

- Remdesivir - nucleoside ribonucleic acid (RNA) polymerase inhibitor.
- Remdesivir should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk for the mother and the fetus.

Breastfeeding Benefits

- Medical – Challenge of infected mothers in COVID-19 discordant dyad; relactation
- Socioeconomic – cost and economic impact with social changes – finding formula, etc.

What remains.....



- What we can do better
- Testing dilemmas

THANK YOU



-TRIPP
OWENS

HEALTHCARE HELPERS

YOUR TRUE COLORS
ARE SHINING
THROUGH
LIKE A

RAINBOW

THANK YOU -Tripp

HEALTHCARE HELPERS!

Stay in Touch!

Twitter: @DrMichelleOwens

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Changes and Challenges to Newborn Care: COVID-19 and Beyond

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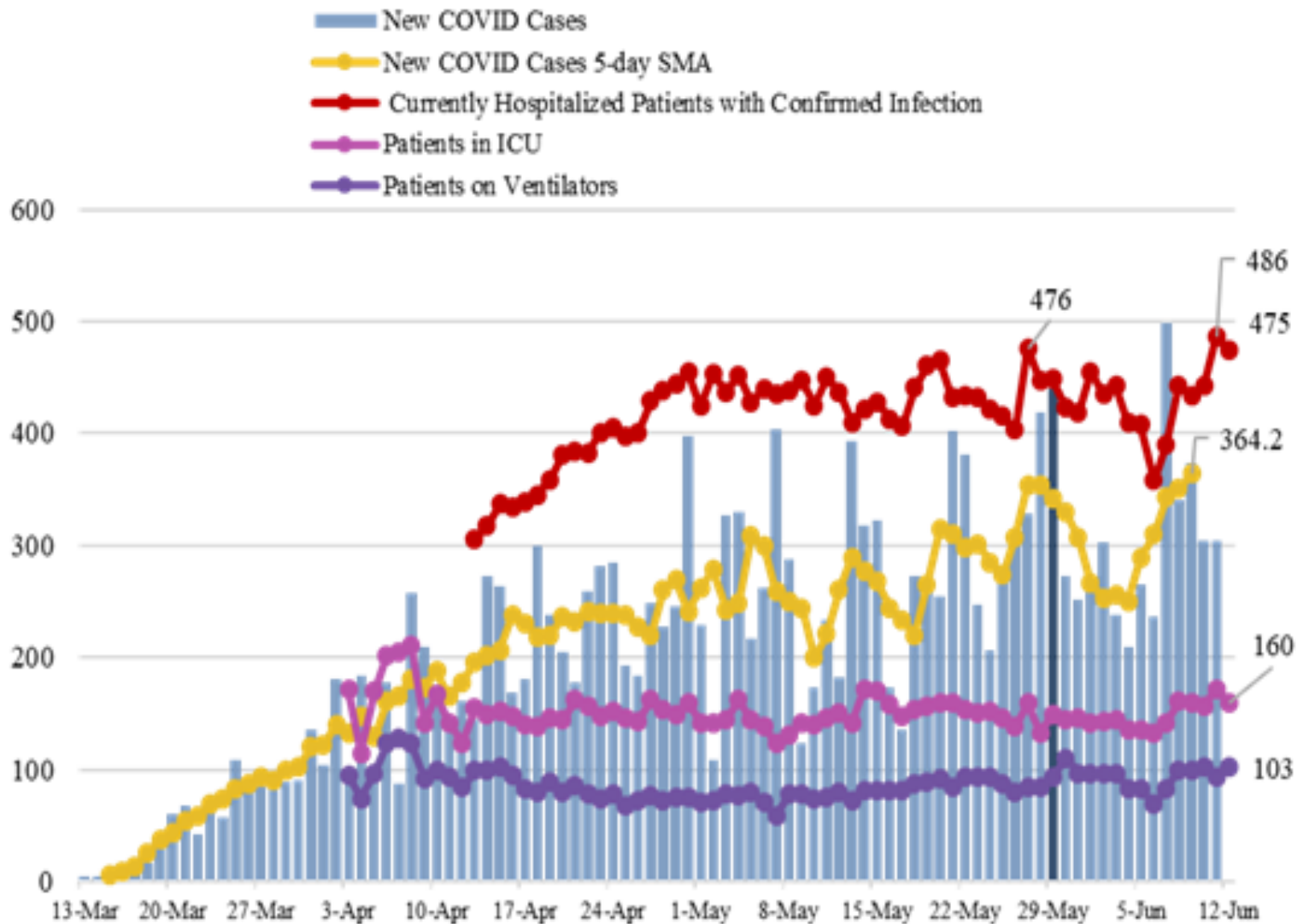
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Objectives:

- ▶ Discuss hospital and clinic changes due to COVID-19
- ▶ Highlight positives and negatives from maternal interviews and surveys
- ▶ Top 3 questions for pediatricians after delivery and discharge
- ▶ Potential short-term and long-term impact of COVID-19 on babies
- ▶ Missed well baby visits- a concerning consequence
- ▶ Mother's Milk Bank update

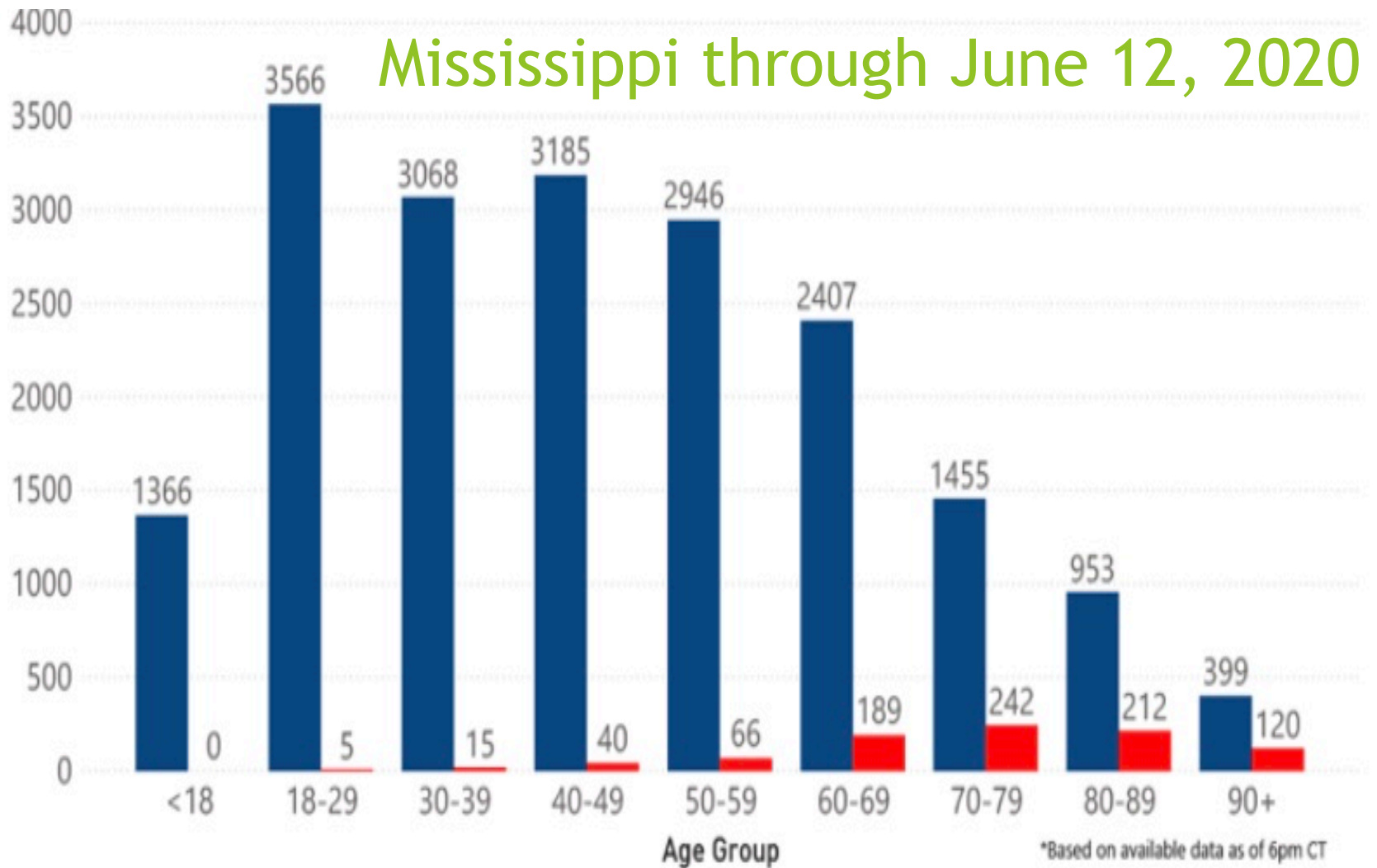
Mississippi

New Cases and Hospitalizations



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Mississippi through June 12, 2020



Newborn Care Changes- Hospital

- ▶ COVID and PUI policies already discussed
- ▶ Visitor policy- initially one person for labor only, now one person for duration
- ▶ NICU and peds - 2 people only
- ▶ All hospital- visitors must be over 18, temp checks and screening questions asked
- ▶ Nurses and staff love these changes
- ▶ Majority of new cases are community acquired or outbreak related and so hospitals and clinics are doing a good job with infection control

Maternal Postpartum Interviews

Negatives

- ▶ Felt like she was getting pushed out too quickly
- ▶ Siblings could not visit
- ▶ Hard to keep up with policy changes
- ▶ Moms have considered changing hospitals based on initial lack of labor support person policy

Positives

- ▶ More time to bond with baby
- ▶ Quiet and slower pace
- ▶ More time to rest
- ▶ Mom felt less stressed
- ▶ “Wish it was this way with all my babies....I wouldn't have gotten my tubes tied! ”

Hospital Lactation Nurse Observations

- ▶ Some moms seem more interested in breastfeeding
- ▶ Some are more interested in exclusive nursing- especially true in April during the height of the lockdown
- ▶ Moms seem to be retaining more lactation information
- ▶ Nurses have more time to teach
- ▶ Moms seem to be getting more rest without all the visitors
- ▶ Some moms are more interested in immune benefits of breastfeeding

Newborn Care Changes- Outpatient Setting

- ▶ First COVID-19 case in MS was at Forrest General Hospital March 11th
- ▶ After that we started doing our 2 day visits via telemedicine
- ▶ In April went back to seeing all 2 days in person
- ▶ Hattiesburg Clinic allows only 1 parent or guardian per patient but we make exceptions with new moms who may need extra help
- ▶ All adults and children >2 must wear a mask in the clinic
- ▶ Patients and parents wait in the car till a room is ready- no waiting rooms
- ▶ Increase numbers of telemedicine visits for fussy baby, gas, colic, spitting
- ▶ Moms seem more isolated and unable to access traditional support systems

What are parents asking?

- ▶ What happens to my baby if I test COVID positive?
- ▶ Will my baby be taken away from me?
- ▶ When can my baby see their grandparents and family members?
- ▶ How are you going to keep me and my baby safe when we are in your clinic for routine visits and checkups?

COVID and newborns

- ▶ South Africa- 2 day old premature baby dies of COVID. Mother was positive for COVID.
- ▶ Wales- 3 day old dies after mother contracts COVID
- ▶ Rare reports of death
- ▶ Rare but severe disease- MIS-C- Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome- Children
- ▶ Old name PIMS- Pediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome
- ▶ Kawasaki-like illness - KawaCOVID
- ▶ Inflammation, multisystem disease including cardiac, renal, GI, hematologic, neurologic, dermatologic

Italian Journal of Pediatrics

April 29, 2020

- ▶ Although children seem to have less severe clinical symptoms when infected [8], the potential harm of this novel disease remains largely unknown in neonates, especially in preterm infants. In the largest pediatric population-based study to date with 2143 cases, over 90% ranged from asymptomatic to moderate. However, the proportion of severe and critical cases was 10.6% under 1 year of age, compared to 7.3, 4.2, 4.1 and 3.0% among the 1-5, 6-10, 11-15 and > 15 year subsets, suggesting that infants may be at higher risk of severe respiratory failure than initially thought [9]

Decreased well baby visits

- ▶ Decreased wellness visits- missed postpartum depression screens, developmental screens, physical exams and growth checks
- ▶ Lower vaccination rates- in Michigan fewer than half the infants under the age of 5 months were up to date on their vaccinations
- ▶ Increased reports of abuse and domestic violence. Calls to domestic hotlines are on the rise.
- ▶ Parental concerns over loss of jobs and health insurance
- ▶ Calls from Mississippi to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline have increased 20% since the pandemic started

Mother's Milk Bank

- ▶ Reminder that the Mother's Milk Bank is still accepting donations and is still processing donor milk
- ▶ Surprising bonus is that milk donations from approved donors have actually increased- maybe moms have more time to pump?
- ▶ However some potential donors are not comfortable going to get labwork at this time

Post-exposure testing scenario

- ▶ Friend dropped off a gift and visited a mom for 10 minutes about a week before delivery
- ▶ A few days after delivery the mom found out the friend tested positive
- ▶ Friend was presymptomatic when she visited and then developed symptoms
- ▶ Friend did not wear a mask and was within 6 feet
- ▶ Mom had to get tested and quarantined from other kids till her test was back
- ▶ Anxiety over exposing her baby and children

Conclusion

- ▶ Newborn COVID policies and procedures are continuing to change and evolve as new information is obtained
- ▶ Parents are anxious and concerned about themselves and their babies and we need to support them with best practices and education and compassion
- ▶ COVID disease in babies and children is rare but can be potentially fatal
- ▶ Well baby visits need to continue to be prioritized
- ▶ Silver lining- mom's hospital experience may be more restful and educational and her breastfeeding experience MAY be more enjoyable and successful

National/International Guidance on COVID-19 and Maternal and Infant Care

- **Centers for Disease Control:**

- Pregnancy and Breastfeeding:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html>
- Clinical Care for Pregnant Women:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/inpatient-obstetric-healthcare-guidance.html>

- **World Health Organization:**

- Frequently Asked Questions: Breastfeeding and COVID-19:
<https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/maternal-health/faqs-breastfeeding-and-covid-19.pdf>
- Publication on Pregnancy, Childbirth, breastfeeding and COVID-19:
<https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/emergencies/COVID-19-pregnancy-ipc-breastfeeding-infographics/en/>
- Breastfeeding Advice from the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean:
<http://www.emro.who.int/nutrition/nutrition-infocus/breastfeeding-advice-during-covid-19-outbreak.html>

- **Association of Breastfeeding Medicine Statement:**

- <https://www.bfmed.org/abm-statement-coronavirus>

- **Commentary in *Breastfeeding Medicine* by Dr. Alison Stuebe**

- <https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/bfm.2020.29153.ams>

- **Ad Interim Indications of the Italian Society of Neonatology, Endorsed by the Union of European Neonatal & Prenatal Societies**

- https://www.uenps.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/14marzo.SIN_UENPS0.pdf

Questions?

Use the chat box to send in any questions you might have

Think of a question after the webinar?

Email the CHAMPS Team at
[champs.breastfeed@gmail.com!](mailto:champs.breastfeed@gmail.com)

Thank you for joining!

Tune in on June 24th for the next webinar in the series,
Maternal Experiences:

Childbirth Narratives in the Time of COVID-19

Featuring Childbirth Narratives from Mothers during COVID-19