Illinois Regionalized Perinatal Health

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Illinois Regional Perinatal Health Program

- Illinois has a formalized Regional Perinatal Health Program (77 Ill. Admin. Code 640)
- Currently there are 10 Administrative Perinatal Centers who administer the birthing hospitals in their regions
Regional Perinatal Network Structure

Level 0
Administrative Perinatal Center

Level I

Level II

Level III

Level IIIE
Hospital Designations

- **Level 0** – Non Birthing Center
- **Level I** – Care for low-risk pregnant women and newborns
- **Level II** – Care for patients with moderate risk
- **Level II with Extended Neonatal Capabilities** – Care for patients with moderate risk and operates Special Care Nursery
- **Level III** – Care for patients with complex healthcare needs; operates a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)

ACOG/AAP

- In 2012 the American Academy of Pediatrics issued new recommendations on neonatal Levels of Care, recommending a new “Level 4” neonatal designation.
- In 2015, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Society of Maternal-Fetal Medicine issued a joint recommendation that for the first time hospitals create designated maternal levels of care.
Levels of Care Taskforce

- IDPH worked with the Perinatal Advisory Committee (PAC) to create a Levels of Care Taskforce to study the issue.
- The Taskforce voted to recommend that the State adopt both the AAP neonatal levels of care and the ACOG maternal levels of care.
- The PAC voted to recommend that IDPH take action on levels of care.

Next Steps

- Maternal Levels of Care requires legislation and will not be addressed right now.
- Our current rule “640” is outdated, has flaws, and needs updating. To adopt neonatal rules, it will require a wholesale rewrite.
- We are establishing workgroups to help the Department rewrite the rule to adopt the AAP neonatal levels of care for Illinois.
Workgroups

- All workgroup meetings will be subject to the Open Meetings Act, and will be public.
- Workgroups will be 6-8 people.
- We need expertise in how to create the best system for the entire state.
- Workgroups:
  - Designation, Redesignation, and Transfer of Network
  - Levels 1/2
  - Levels 3/4
  - Transfers
  - Site Visits

Timeline

- We anticipate this work will take us 2 years to complete.
- No changes immediately.
- We will be working with PAC to make final selections for workgroups next month.