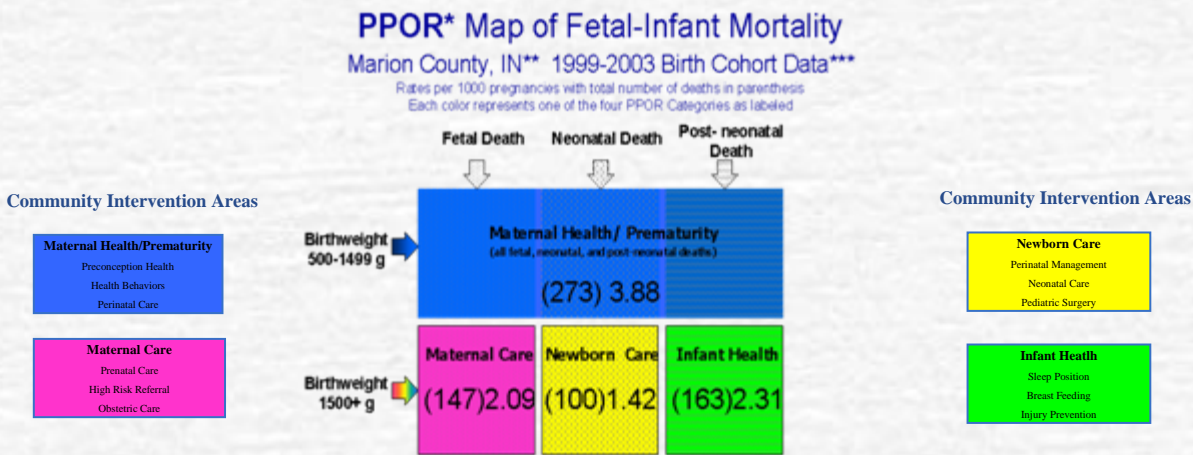


Using Periods of Perinatal Risk (PPOR) to Focus Interventions Aimed Toward Reducing Infant Mortality in Marion County, IN

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Purpose: To divide fetal-infant mortality into 4 strategic prevention areas based on age at time of death and weight at birth



*A conceptual framework developed by the World Health Organization with multi-city learning clusters in the US provided by CityMatch and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PPOR is an acronym for "Periods of Perinatal Risk"
 **Total number of pregnancies=70,431 overall rate=9.70
 ***Data compiled from birth certificate data from the Marion County Health Department, Indianapolis, IN

Data Driven Action Plan: Based on the results, plans are underway to....

- Continue the PPOR workgroup
- Conduct focus groups to determine community perceptions of safe sleeping positions
- Develop intensive preconception health education materials
- Support legislation requiring autopsies on fetal deaths to determine cause of death.

Community Involvement

A team of 13 individuals representing the Indianapolis Healthy Start, Marion County Health Department, Indiana State Department of Health (MCH Division), Indiana Access, Fetal Infant Mortality Review, Child Fatality Review, and other service providers gathered regularly over the course of a year to review the results of analyses.

Methods

A birth cohort of infant deaths from 1998-2003 was used. Deaths were divided by weight (500-1499 g and 1500+) and death period (fetal, neonatal, and postneonatal). Excluded were fetal deaths <24 weeks, infant and fetal deaths <500 gms. Many analyses were done to examine the contributions of various risk factors to the deaths, and to characterize the persons with the highest risks. One analysis of excess deaths examined what portion might be attributed to prevalence of low birthweight births versus birthweight-specific mortality.

Results

The Maternal Health/Prematurity category and Infant Health Category had the highest death rates. This indicated more focus on developing and/or refining community interventions impacting these two categories was needed.