

# What is a MATERNAL-FETAL MEDICINE (MFM) subspecialist?



A physician who has advanced knowledge and training in **medical, surgical, obstetrical, fetal, and genetic complications of pregnancy** & their effects on both the woman and fetus.

MFM Subspecialists provide


- 1 consultations
- 2 co-management
- 3 transfer of care

for women with complex conditions before, during, and after pregnancy.

MFM Subspecialists provide peer and patient education;



AND

 perform research on innovative approaches and treatments.

MFM subspecialists work with **ALL OBSTETRIC PROVIDERS**



including physician assistants, nurses, NPs, CNMs/CMs, family physicians, and obstetrician-gynecologists to manage **HIGH-RISK PREGNANCIES.**

# What is a HIGH-RISK PREGNANCY?



One that threatens the **HEALTH OR LIFE** of the **WOMAN OR HER FETUS.**



**EXISTING CONDITIONS**, such as **high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, or being HIV-positive**

Rates of **Gestational Diabetes (GDM) and pre-GDM** have **DOUBLED** in the last 14 years.

Over the last 30 years, **first trimester use of prescription medications** has **increased** **more than 60%**

**60%** of women of reproductive age are **obese or overweight.**



**COMPLICATIONS** from **PREVIOUS PREGNANCIES**

e.g. pre-term birth, preeclampsia, IUGR

**MULTIPLE GESTATION**

In 2014, **3.5%** of all babies born were **TWINS, TRIPLETS OR HIGHER-ORDER MULTIPLES**, accounting for almost **140,000 births** in the U.S.

The number of **MULTIPLES** **Born in the U.S.**

Is at an **ALL-TIME HIGH**, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

**PROBLEMS** with **THE FETUS**

**Birth defects** affect **one in every 33 babies** born in the U.S. each year.



**Birth defects** are the leading cause of infant deaths, accounting for **20% of all infant deaths.**