**TEAM: F.F. THOMPSON HOSPITAL – BIRTH CENTER**

Team Members:

Perinatal Safety Nurse OB Medical Obstetricians and Midwives

Birth Center Director OR Interim Director

Birth Center Staff OR Staff

OB Simulation Coordinator Videographer

The Birth Center at F.F. Thompson hospital has 10 LDRP beds and provides Level 1 Low Risk Obstetrical Care within our 114 bed hospital. C-sections are a high-risk/low-volume procedure requiring frequent training or experience to maintain competency. Staffing levels follow AWHONN Guidelines (2010). Scheduled C-sections are performed by surgical staff in the Birth Center OR and emergency C-Sections require cooperation of OR and OB staffs to minimize the on-call burden on the nursing staff.

 In the fall of 2013, OB and OR staffs expressed concern related to competency training and evaluation, communication, and teamwork during C-sections. Neither department understood the unique issues of OB and OR staffing and staff reported a lack of mutual respect and support during Code Green emergency C-sections. Individual roles and responsibilities were not clearly defined, and the two departments struggled to function as a cohesive team.

The Perinatal Safety Nurse and the OB Manager met with OB and OR staff to discuss the concerns and develop strategies to unify and standardize team goals and expectations.

The group:

1. identified the need for ongoing educational opportunities;
2. clearly defined individual and team expectations; and
3. worked together to create the Code Green Simulation program.

This program provides a safe environment for the team to practice emergency procedures and provides immediate evaluation and feedback to the team members. By simulating emergency procedures as a group, the team members gained confidence in their ability to perform these critical procedures in an emergency. Working together, the two departments have integrated their unique talents to provide excellent, reliable, team-based care to our patients.

Education:

* OB Scrub Tech orientation includes two weeks scrubbing in the main OR.
* OB Scrub Techs will scrub at least one scheduled C-Section every six months with an OR scrub to remain current.
	+ Colored photographs of the standard surgical set ups for C-sections are posted in the operating room as visual reminders for the OB scrub techs.
* OB and OR RN’s created an emergency C-Section training video for circulators.
	+ OB RN’s will review this video every quarter to reinforce the circulator responsibilities.

Simulation:

* Schedule Code Green Simulations

 Designed, led and evaluated by staff members and providers.

These strategies were implemented over a 6 month period and tested during a Code Green Simulation that included the C-section staff and providers.

Measure of Success:

Post-simulation evaluations demonstrated a more effective and efficient team. Team members cited:

1. TeamSTEPPS hand overs and callouts;
2. clearly defined roles; and
3. improved education tools

 as critical components of this unification project.

Working together, the two departments developed confidence in the team’s emergency response, and their ability to work as one team during a critical emergency. They continue their collaboration, evaluating and improving our processes, and providing ongoing education and support to the team members.