



Texas Perinatal Services NEWSLETTER

A Program of the Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation

DECEMBER 2019

TETAF and Texas Perinatal Services Response to SB 749 Rule Revisions

Texas Perinatal Services (TPS) continues its active involvement with the Texas Perinatal Advisory Council (PAC) as the council works diligently to prepare a report to the Texas Legislature on neonatal facilities, as set forth by Senate Bill (SB) 749.

The Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation (TETAF) and TPS have made recommendations for simple revisions to the existing rules that can strengthen the neonatal care and maternal care verification processes moving forward thus improving care for moms and babies in Texas. On November 12, TETAF President and CEO Dinah Welsh, Vice President Brenda Putz, and Texas Perinatal Services Perinatal Program Director Carla Rider attended the PAC meeting. TETAF was given the opportunity to review its letter with the PAC and emphasize the need for rule revisions, and Rider presented TETAF/TPS' recommendations to the PAC.

We have provided a link below to our public letter to the PAC Chair, Dr. Emily Briggs.

[TPS Letter to Texas Perinatal Advisory Council](#)



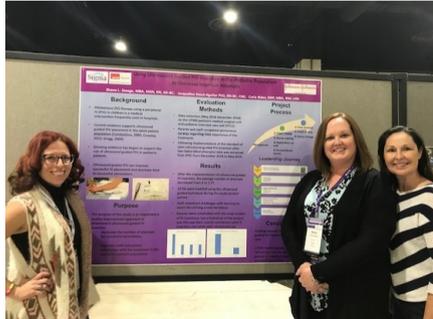
Texas Perinatal Services Gives Presentation to Pediatric Coordinating Council

Texas Perinatal Services perinatal program director, Carla Rider, and TETAF president and CEO, Dinah Welsh, attended Memorial Hermann's Pediatric Coordinating Council meeting on November 4. During that meeting, Rider provided a presentation on, "Neonatal Designation: What is There to Learn?"

The presentation provided detailed information on the verification process and levels of neonatal care in Texas, the neonatal designation timeline, and the types of support available for a successful verification survey.

Sigma 45th Biennial Conference

As a member of the prestigious Sigma Nursing honor society, Carla Rider, Texas Perinatal Services perinatal program director, attended the 45th Biennial Conference in Washington D.C. Rider has served as faculty and then as lead faculty for the past four years where she has had the opportunity to develop curriculum.



During the conference, Rider and fellow members presented 15 different Quality Improvement projects, including one on "Breast Milk Bistro: The Effects of a Breastfeeding Support Group on Mothers' Breastfeeding Experience." Rider is shown in the above photo with University of Texas Medical Branch representatives Jacqueline Stout-Aguilar and Shana Steege standing next to their Quality Improvement partnership project, "Using Ultrasound Guided PIV Insertion in the Pediatric Population to Decrease Insertion Attempts."



New Air Ambulance to Improve Response Times

The Women's Hospital of Texas unveiled its new HCA Houston Healthcare AirLife. Hospital representatives say the new helicopter is capable of flying farther without refueling, thereby improving response times and patient outcomes for high-risk mothers, newborns and pediatric patients in need of a higher level of care.

The complete story can be viewed on the [HCA Houston Healthcare website](#).

Scheduling a Re-Designation Survey

Re-designation surveys need to be completed **no less than six to eight months prior to a hospital's expiration date**. This allows for a timely submission of the re-designation application, along with the required survey-supporting documentation that goes to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) requesting re-designation. For more information, please refer to [Texas Administrative Code Rule§ 133.184](#).

Designations are awarded for three years. It is not too early to request your survey if your expiration date is anytime in 2020 or the first six months of 2021.

[Request Neonatal Survey](#)

[Request Maternal Care Survey](#)

Next Perinatal Forum - December 17

Texas Perinatal Services (TPS) hosts its next Perinatal Forum on December 17 at 1 p.m. TPS Program Director Carla Rider will provide a brief presentation on, "Neonatal Designation: What is There to Learn?" The TETAF/TPS team will also provide an update on SB 749, neonatal scheduling, and details about the new Virtual Library page.

If you have not previously joined one of the educational online forums that are exclusive to TETAF/TPS hospitals, contact [Carla Rider](#) to register.

CONTACT US

info@tetaf.org | 512-524-2892
3400 Enfield Road | Austin, TX 78703 US

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