

## Course Description:

The goal of this conference is to increase obstetric care with rapidly evolving clinical situations, multidisciplinary teams, and emotionally charged environments can make communication challenging. This conference will introduce practical strategies for navigating difficult discussions in obstetric settings through didactic and hands-on scenarios. Participants will explore common situations such as unexpected or different clinical situations, addressing among team members, and communicating during stressful moments. The session will provide opportunities to practice communication techniques that promote psychological safety, collaboration, and effective team dialogue. The simulation portion of the day will allow skill application and practice with both team based and 1:1 scenarios.

## Objectives:

- Describe key principles of effective communication and their relevance to high-stakes interactions in obstetrics care.
- Apply structured communication strategies to manage disagreement, escalate clinical concerns, and maintain psychological safety within multidisciplinary obstetric team.
- Analyze and evaluate communication strategies used during simulated obstetric scenarios to identify approaches.



The 25th Annual MetroHealth  
Perinatal Conference

## Communication in Obstetrics: How We Have Conversations that are Crucial with Patients and Each Other



**Wednesday, October 14, 2026**

**7:40 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.**

Registration begins at 7:15am

2500 MetroHealth Drive  
Cleveland, OH 44109

Main Campus,  
Alfred F. Connors, R170



connect@metrohealthcle



**MyChart**  
metrohealth.org/mychart

# AGENDA

## Morning Didactic Program

- 7:15 A.M.**    **Registration/breakfast**
- 7:40 A.M.**    **Welcome**  
Chip Wiper, MD
- 7:45 A.M.**    **Introduction: Defining Crucial Conversations**  
Kelly Gibson, MD
- 8:00 A.M.**    **Empowering Self-Talk: How self-descriptions impact our communication with others**  
Kavita Narang, MD
- 8:45 A.M.**    **Team Debriefs: How a quick conversation can improve unit teamwork and safety**  
Shelly Soni, MD
- 9:30 A.M.**    **Break / Vendor Visit**
- 10:00 A.M.**    **Early Pregnancy Counseling**  
Mae Winchester, MD
- 10:30 A.M.**    **Navigating Conflict**  
Jim Smith
- 11:00 A.M.**    **On the Brink of Viability: How we talk with families**  
Bhavana Janga, MD  
Joshua Burkholder, MD
- 11:30 A.M.**    **Giving and Receiving Feedback**  
Carley Cost, MD
- 12:00 P.M.**    **Sharing Unexpected News with Patients and Family**  
Kishore Vellody, MD
- 12:30 P.M.**    **Lunch and Vendor Visit**
- 1:30 P.M.**    **Simulation Breakout Sessions**
- 3:00 P.M.**    **Break / Vendor Visit**
- 3:15 P.M.**    **Simulation Breakout Sessions**
- 4:45 P.M.**    **Adjourn**

## Simulation Sessions:

### Breaking Bad News

Jessica Phippen, MD  
Bhavana Janga, MD

### Team Debriefs: Emergent C- section

Joselle O' Brien, MD  
Lillian Kohler, RN

### Hypertensive Emergencies

Krishna Majmundar, MD  
Jennifer Elmore, RN

### Postpartum Hemorrhage

Judy Jiang, MD  
Judith Szerency, RN

### To AROM or Not to AROM: Using Team Birth Tools

Clodagh Mullen, MD  
Ritsa Mavrakis, RN

### CUSing with the Team

Sybil Sailofsky, MD  
Hannah Szerency, RN

## Registration Information:

All day conference and simulations – lunch included

Physicians, NPs and PAs .....\$250

RN .....\$125

MHS employees.....\$25

Trainees ..... FREE

**Method of Payment:** Online payment only – Credit Card

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, October 9, 2026

**Registration link:** <https://metrohealth.cloud-cme.com/course/courseoverview?P=0&EID=3700>

Scan the QR code to register.



## Accreditation/Designation Statement:

The MetroHealth System is accredited by the Ohio State Medical Association to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The MetroHealth System designates this educational activity for a maximum of 7.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.