

**Boston Medical Center Maternity Care Guideline**  
**Guideline: Complex Obstetric Patient Preparation for Delivery**  
**Accepted: October 19, 2022**  
**Updated: October 19, 2022**

**Introduction:**

The purpose of this guideline is to assist with the preparation for admission for pregnant people with complex conditions which may impact their labor and delivery and postpartum care. It assists in providing complete, organized care upon arrival to Labor and Delivery Unit (L&D) and continuing to their postpartum care and discharge.

**Logistics:**

- Pregnant people with the diagnoses and clinical indicators listed in Table 1 should be identified as early as possible in pregnancy. This list is not exhaustive.
- The primary prenatal provider:
  - Is responsible for identifying complex conditions in their patients and following the recommended flow (see Table 2).
  - Creates a Complex Care Coordination problem in the patient's EPIC Problem List to clearly define the antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum plan of care.
  - Sends an epic message to the Perinatal Safety Specialist.
  - Schedules surgery/induction Mon-Thurs and not on weekends/holidays.
- The Perinatal Safety Specialist:
  - Maintains a list of the Complex Care patients including relevant diagnoses, assessments, consults and relevant testing and/or imaging and organizes the Complex OB Patient monthly meeting with the Complex OB Patient team.
  - Posts the Complex Care list on BO [Complex Care Patient List in BOX](#) The Complex OB Patient team:
  - Is a multi-disciplinary team, including MFM, L&D and postpartum nursing, resource nursing as well as anesthesia and relevant consult services.
  - Reviews the complex care plan addressing the following potential needs for patients expected to deliver in the next 8 weeks:
    - Recommends team to manage patient on Labor and Delivery and **postpartum**.
    - Recommends location of surgery - use of main OR is addressed in Table 3.
    - Identifies potential need for invasive monitoring.

- Describes hemorrhage contingency planning. For example: complex crossmatch with multiple antibodies; Jehovah's Witness limitation on blood products; hysterectomy versus massive transfusion.
- Recommends immediate postpartum/PACU needs – nursing, diuretics, consultation, etc.
- Recommends level of care for first 48 hours postpartum.
- Anticipates discharge planning issues – anticipated prolonged stay, VNA, follow up.
- Education opportunities for all staff.

**Table 1: Conditions warranting complex case planning (not exhaustive)**

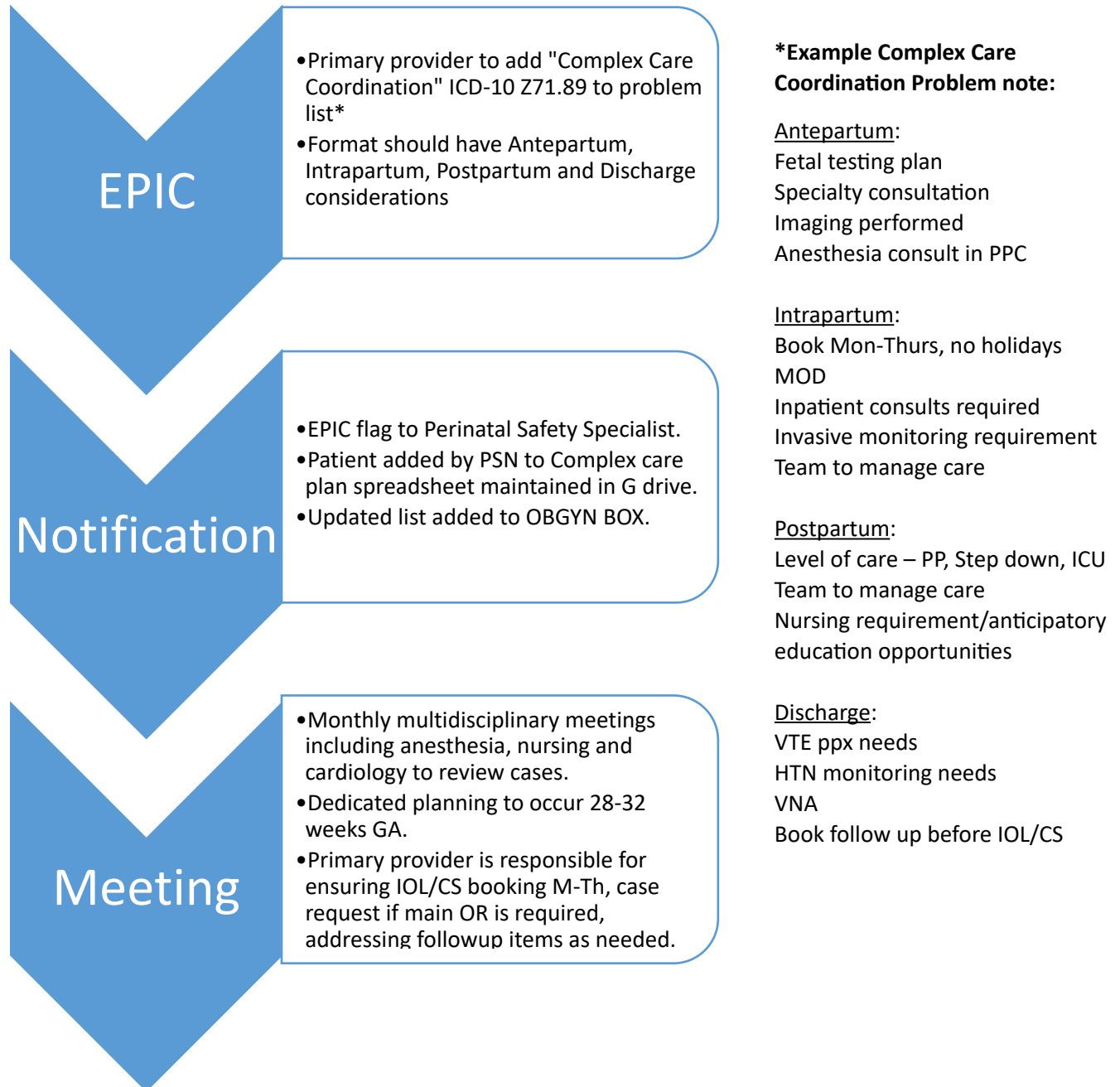
<b>Cardiac</b>
Congenital and acquired – e.g. repaired TOF or TGA
Cardiomyopathy
Valvular disease
Pulmonary HTN/Eisenmengers*
Rhythm abnormalities – SVT, WPW
HTN w sequelae (LVH, Cr>0.8 in pregnancy)
Pacemaker or defibrillator
<b>Hematologic</b>
ITP w severe thrombocytopenia
Sickle Cell Disease
Coagulation abnormalities (e.g. vWD)
Current anticoagulant medications
<b>Spinal/MSK/Neuro</b>
Seizure disorder
CNS anomaly e.g. AVM, aneurysm, Chiari malformation, VP shunt
<b>Hepatic/Renal/GI</b>
Chronic renal insufficiency
Hepatitis or Cirrhosis WITH abnormal LFTS/coags
IBD/CD w h/o abdominal surgery
<b>Miscellaneous Medical</b>
H/o solid organ transplant
Myasthenia gravis
Uncontrolled HIV
Neurofibromatosis
Major disability including blindness, deafness
<b>Obstetric complications</b>
Suspected accreta*
Non-OB surgery during pregnancy

\* Indications for use of main or hybrid OR, see policy: 15.05.003 OB High Risk Cesarean Planning Guideline

\*\* See Fetal Board plan

Planned CD w concurrent maior abdominal procedure*
Fetal anomaly **
Anticipated neonatal death/palliative care needs**
<b>Psychiatric</b>
PTSD from prior obstetrical events
Schizophrenia

**Table 2: Flow for Complex Case Planning**



<b>Table 3: OB High Risk Delivery Planning Checklist</b>		<b>Patient Name:</b>
<b>MRN:</b>		
EDD		
Gravida/Para		
Surgical Date		
GA at delivery		
Surgery location (Main/Labor and Delivery)		
Preoperative Diagnosis		
Placental position		
Relevant radiologic findings		
<b>Obstetric History:</b>		
Number of prior cesarean sections		
Other prior uterine or abdominal surgery		
Anesthesia planned		
Maternal blood type/Ab screen (date)		
Maternal Hct/Hgb (date)		
Maternal creatinine (date)		
Planned hysterectomy? (yes/no)		
Surgical Consent signed? (date)		
Anesthesia Consent signed? (date)		
Pre-procedure clinic (date)		
Pre-admission day prior (yes/no, reason)		
Pre-operative consult (PPC)? (date)		
Pre-operative COVID testing (date)		
Antenatal fetal steroids? (dates)		
NICU considerations		
<b>Delivery Team:</b>		
Primary Obstetric surgeon		
MFM consult		
Event Manager		
Anesthesia attending		
NICU attending		
Primary Nurse		

GYN oncologist/Trauma/Vascular surgeon	
Interventional Radiologist Name/pager:	
Blood Bank Contact    Name/Pager:	
Other service Name/ pager:	
Blood Products	
Ligasure/Novasure	
C/S Cart, OB Trauma Cart	
Cell Saver	
Underbody Bair Hugger	
MTP lab forms, patient labels, OBH protocol, OBH meds, scale, Baby & LD Meds, blood gas kits	
NICU equipment in OR	

**REFERENCES:**

Clapp et al. Hospital acuity and maternal morbidity. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2018