

Maternal Healthcare Crisis for Women of Color

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Nothing Protects Black Women From Dying in Pregnancy and Childbirth

Not education. Not income. Not even being an expert on racial disparities in health care.

by Nina Martin, ProPublica, and Renee Montagne, NPR, Dec. 7, 2017, 8 a.m. EST

Hospitals know how to protect mothers. They just aren't doing it.

Alison Young, USA TODAY
4:54 p.m. EDT July 27, 2018

PROPUBLICA TOPICS SERIES ABOUT

LOST MOTHERS

How Hospitals Are Failing Black Mothers

A ProPublica analysis shows that women who deliver at hospitals that disproportionately serve black mothers are at a higher risk of harm.

by Annie Waldman, Dec. 27, 2017, 8 a.m. EST



Shalyn MauRene Irving was a lieutenant commander in the uniformed ranks of the U.S. Public Health

Opinion

If Americans Love Moms, Why Do We Let Them Die?



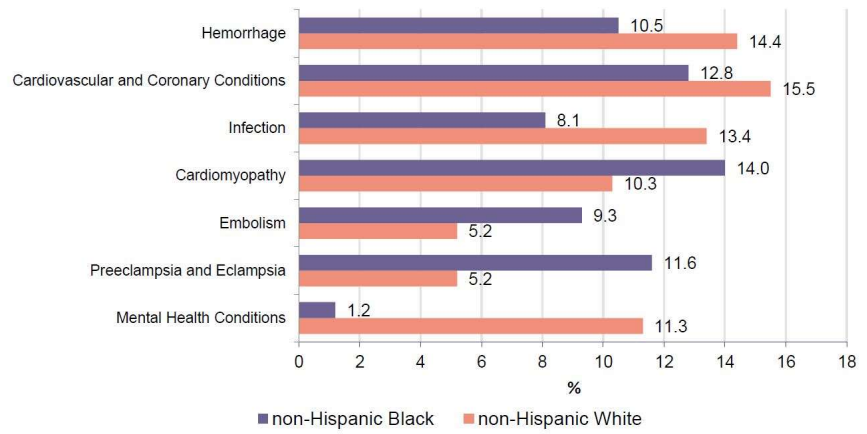
By Nicholas Kristof
New York Times

July 29, 2017



Leading Causes of Pregnancy-Related Deaths by Race

Figure 5. Leading Underlying Causes of Pregnancy-Related Deaths, by Race-Ethnicity

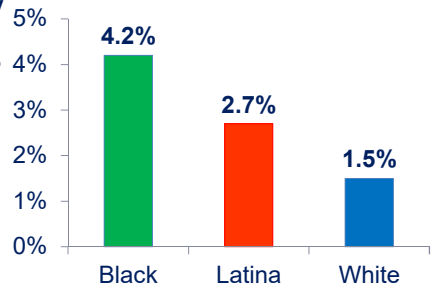


Capacity to Review and Prevent Maternal Deaths. (2018). Report from nine maternal mortality review committees. Retrieved from <http://reviewtoaction.org/Report from Nine MMRCs>.

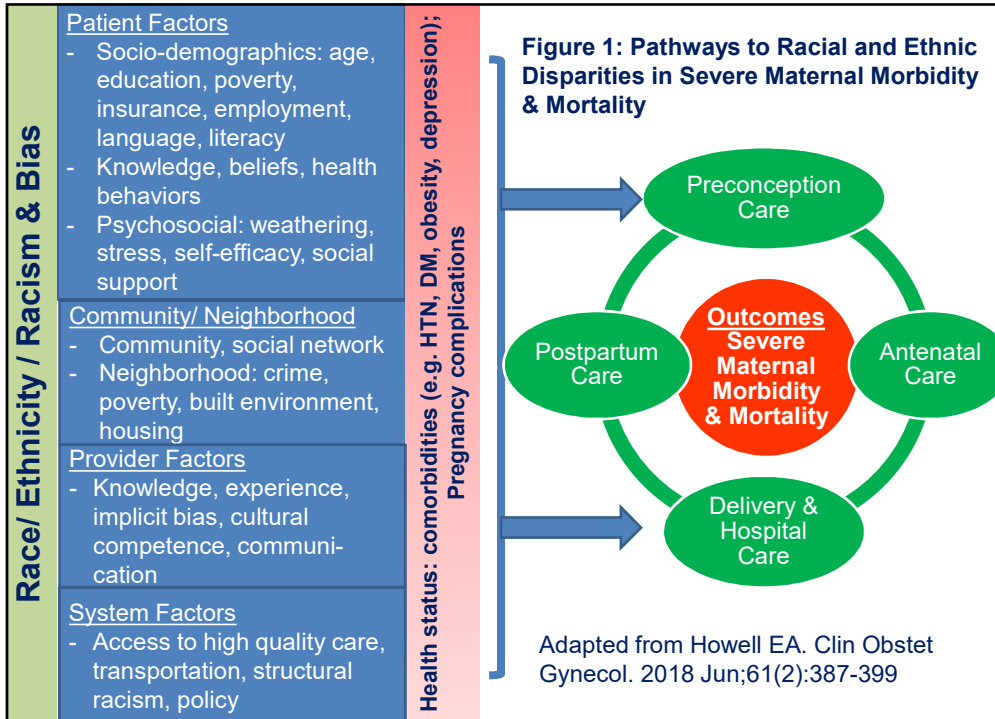
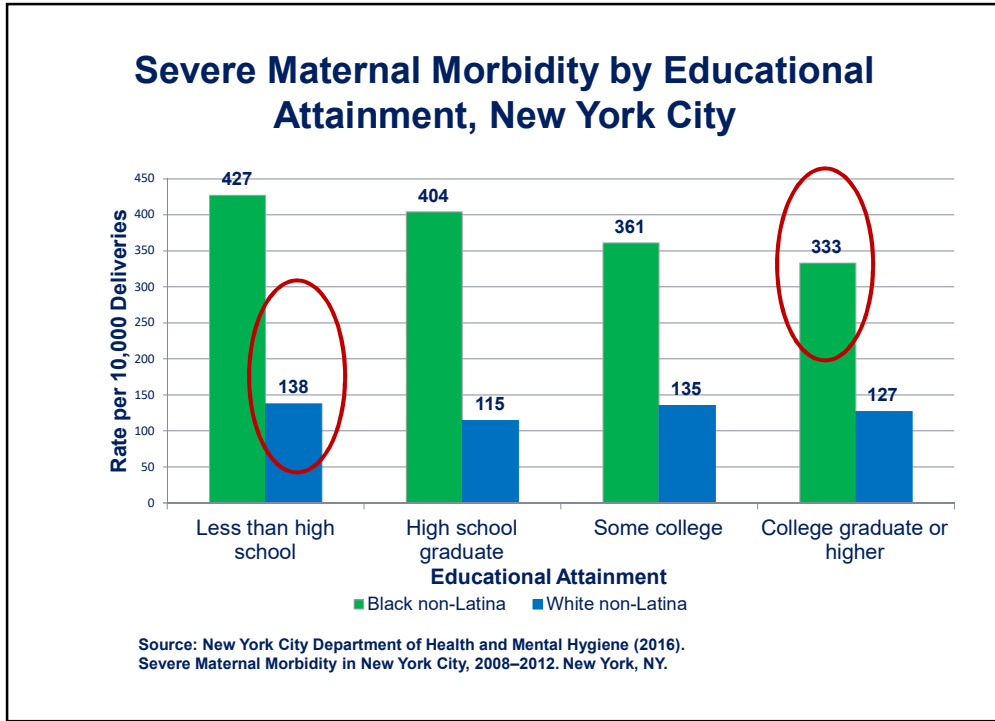
Severe Maternal Morbidity and Disparities

- For every maternal death, 100 women experience severe maternal morbidity
- Life-threatening diagnosis during delivery; affects 50,000 women annually
- Racial and ethnic disparities exist

NYC Severe Maternal Morbidity Rates



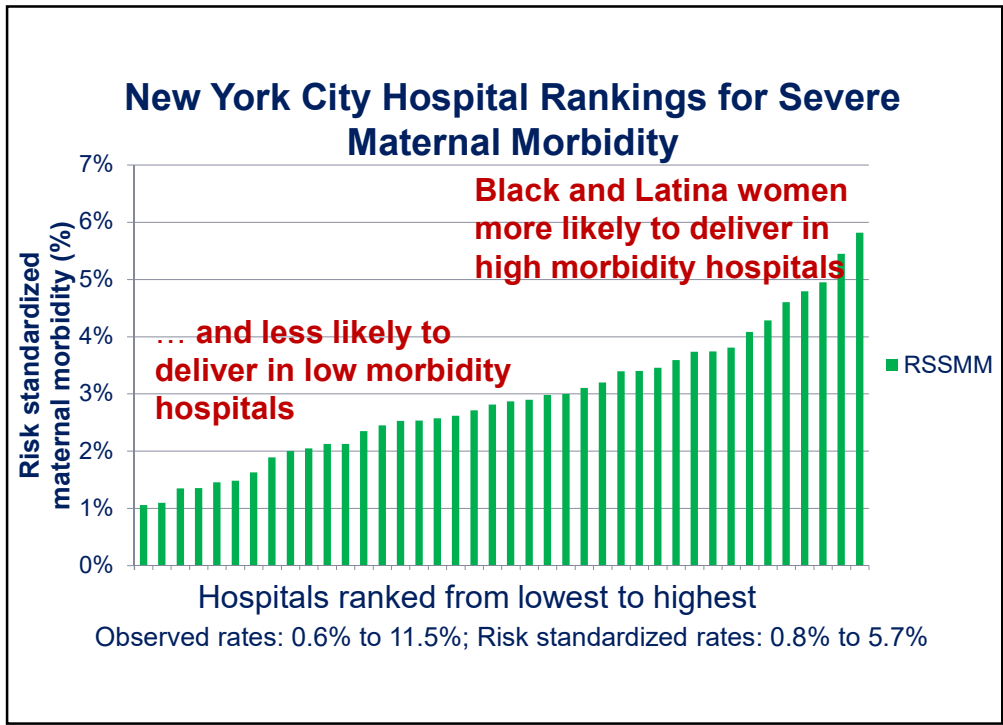
Callaghan. Obstet Gynecol 2012;120:1029-36; Howell EA. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2016 Aug;215(2):143-52; Howell EA. Obstet Gynecol. 2017 Feb;129(2):285-294.

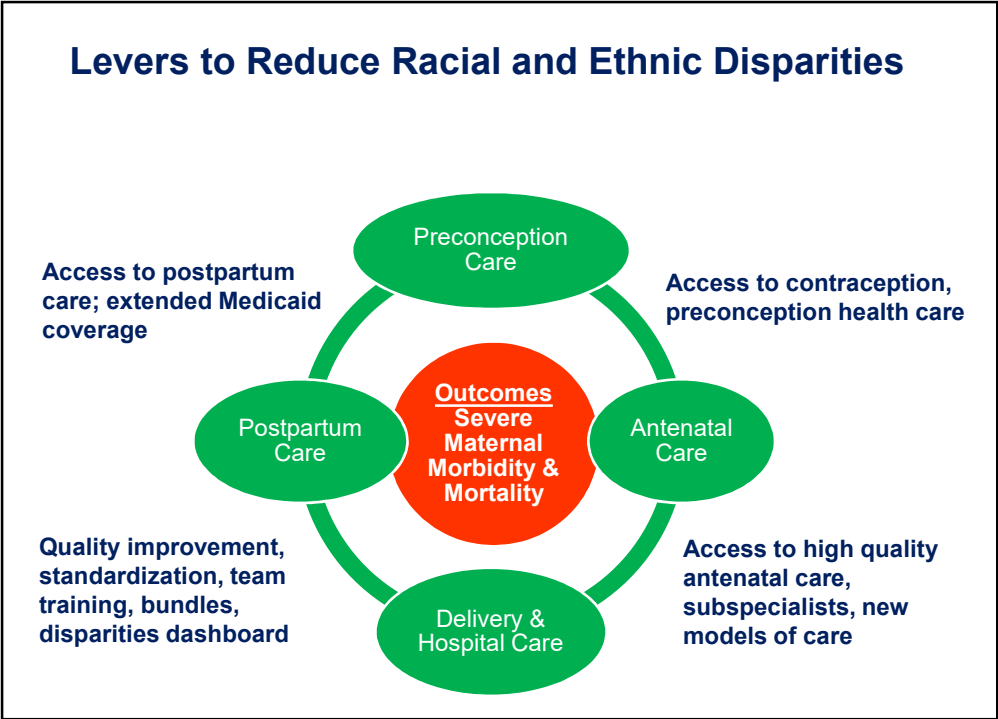


Quality of Care and Disparities

- Nearly one-half of maternal deaths/ severe maternal morbidity events are preventable
- Hospital quality important contributing factor
- Growing body of research suggests
 - Black mothers deliver in specific set of hospitals and these hospitals have worse outcomes for both black and white women

Capacity to Review and Prevent Maternal Deaths. (2018). Retrieved from http://reviewtoaction.org/Report_from_Nine_MMRCs; Howell EA. AJOG. 2016 Aug;215(2):143-52; Howell EA. AJOG. 2016; Jan;214(1):122.e1-e9. Howell EA. Obstet Gynecol. 2017 Feb;129(2):285-294





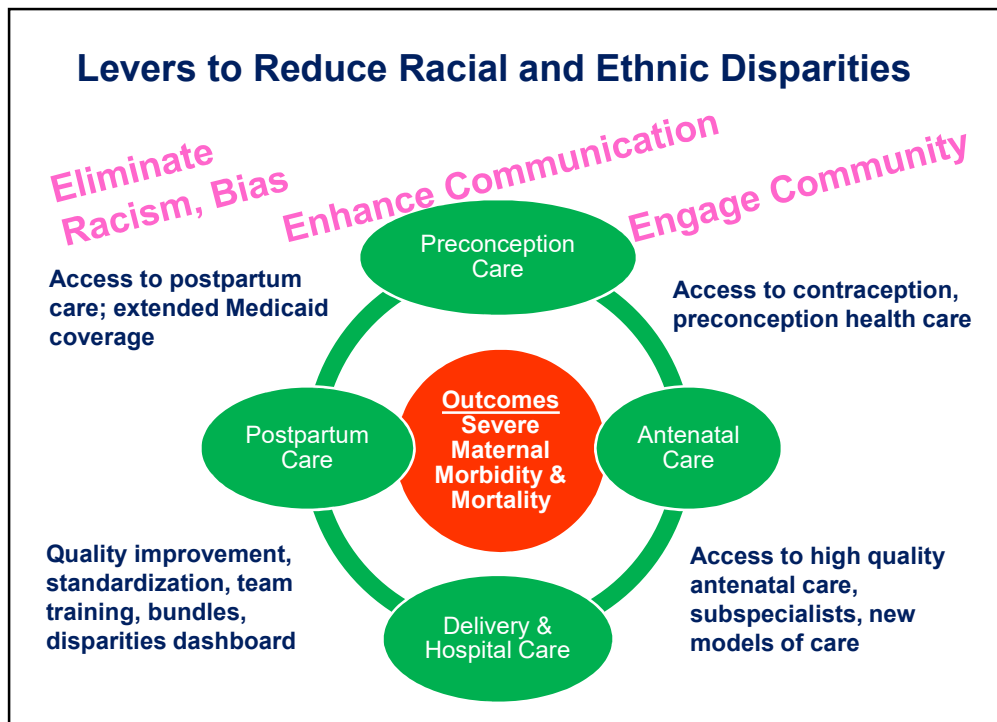
What Serena Williams’s scary childbirth story says about medical treatment of black women

Black women are often dismissed or ignored by medical care providers. Williams wasn’t an exception.

By P.R. Lockhart | Jan 11, 2018, 4:40pm EST

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<https://www.vox.com/identities/2018/1/11/16879984/serena-williams-childbirth-scary-black-women>





**COUNCIL ON PATIENT SAFETY
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE**
safe health care for every woman

PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE

**Reduction of Peripartum
Racial/Ethnic Disparities**

Key Recommendations

- Collect Self-Identified Race/Ethnicity/Language
- Disparities Dashboard
- Maternal Mortality and Severe Maternal Morbidity Reviews
- Community Participation in Quality and Safety Committees
- Implicit Bias Training
- Promote Culture of Equity

Howell EA. Obstet Gynecol. 2018 May;131(5):770-782

THANK YOU

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