

BUILDING SAFETY: Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in the Perinatal Period

Training to build team confidence and sustainable
response systems across the perinatal continuum



The Need

Healthcare teams across Colorado identified common challenges:

- Discomfort responding to intimate partner violence (IPV)
- Lack of standardized workflows
- Concerns about documentation and safety
- Limited education specific to the perinatal period

CPCQC developed this training to provide practical, implementation-ready tools that support patient-centered care.

Why It Matters

- In Colorado, 1 in 3 women have experienced physical violence, sexual violence, or stalking by an intimate partner.
- Birthing people experiencing IPV are twice as likely to delay or miss prenatal care.
- Survivors who discuss abuse with a healthcare provider are 4 times more likely to access intervention and 2.6 times more likely to leave the abusive relationship.

IPV affects maternal health, mental health, postpartum recovery, parenting, and infant outcomes.

Homicide is the 4th leading cause of maternal mortality in Colorado

Per the 2019-2023 Maternal Mortality data set

Training Curriculum

This 2-hour course covers:

- IPV in the perinatal period (prevalence, impact, outcomes)
- Signs, risk factors, and abuse dynamics
- Trauma-informed communication and patient-centered care
- Universal education, screening, and safe response strategies
- Responding to disclosure and supporting patient choice
- Documentation and reporting best practices
- Safety planning and community resource connection
- Barriers to care and health equity
- Clinical workflow integration and team-based response
- Sustaining practice change and implementation support

Companion Tools & Materials



IPV Companion Toolkit provides education, workflow supports, documentation guidance, referral resources, and implementation tools for consistent IPV response.



Patient & Staff Materials reinforce consistent messaging and support safe, patient-centered care environments.



This activity has been approved by the Colorado Nurses Association to award 2 contact hours. The CNA is an accredited approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation

Interested in bringing this training to your team? Contact Kari Ricard at kricard@cpcqc.org