



gapps

an initiative of Seattle Children's

GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO PREVENT
PREMATURITY AND STILLBIRTH

Perinatal Interventions Program

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An innovative healthcare solution aimed at improving birth outcomes in low-resource communities and healthcare clinics, the PIP combines decision-making tools with low-cost, evidence-based interventions.

The Challenge

Globally, more than 1 million babies are born prematurely each year, and prematurity is the leading cause of newborn death. Preterm infants who survive are at increased risk for serious short- and long-term health problems. Additionally, a staggering 2.6 million stillbirths happen every year. About one-third of these losses occur late in pregnancy, and nearly half of all maternal deaths take place in the hours or minutes before birth or during delivery. High-tech interventions to prevent stillbirth and infant mortality from preterm birth are often not available in low-resource settings.

The Solution

GAPPS is collaborating with PATH and Seattle Children's Research Institute to develop a Perinatal Interventions Program (PIP) to improve birth outcomes. It is composed of step-by-step guidelines to help healthcare providers quickly diagnose women at risk for preterm birth, as well as use targeted interventions for preterm infants. The program includes decision-making guides; low-cost, evidence-based solutions; and materials focused on behavior change. Currently undergoing testing, the PIP is designed for use in homes, primary clinics and other healthcare facilities in low-resource communities around the world.



Perinatal Interventions Program at a Glance

These evidence-based, step-by-step guides will enable healthcare providers to diagnose at-risk women and quickly identify and implement appropriate solutions to manage preterm birth, or direct effective care for preterm newborns. The perinatal period spans the last trimester of pregnancy through the first week of a newborn's life.

The program will be implemented in areas carrying the greatest burden of preterm birth. PIP components include:

- Decision trees and tools matched to the provider's skill level – whether in the home or a medical facility
- Materials focused on behavior change to help increase community awareness of existing, proven solutions, and inform providers and mothers about harmful and ineffective interventions that should be discontinued
- Continuous evaluation to eliminate waste, engage local communities, and evaluate and improve quality of care
- Monitoring and evaluation of post-PIP health outcomes in mothers and babies

How You Can Help

Together we can find the answers to end the global crisis of prematurity and stillbirth. Your support will help us advance vital research and develop cost-effective solutions like the Perinatal Interventions Program. Every gift brings us closer to improving maternal and newborn health to benefit families and communities locally and around the world.

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