



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
October 15, 2010

Contact: Yolanda Landon
Office: (240) 485-1822
Email: ylandon@acnm.org

ACNM Debuts Evidence-based Resource Highlighting Midwifery Approach to Maternity Care

—Pearls of Midwifery Sheds Light on the Science and Art of the Midwifery Care Model—

SILVER SPRING, MD—The American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) has released a one-of-a-kind presentation that highlights the scientific support of the modern midwifery maternity care model—Evidence-based Practice: Pearls of Midwifery. The Pearls presentation shows care providers how to implement the latest Cochrane recommendations for care of laboring women and is applicable to all birth settings, including hospitals, freestanding birth centers, and homes.

The Pearls presentation showcases the benefits of midwifery practices that support labor and childbirth for mothers and babies. Because of its simplicity, it can be used with multiple audiences, such as hospital administrators, physicians, students, and consumers.

According to ACNM President Holly Powell Kennedy, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN, the Pearls of Midwifery presentation is a long-overdue resource. “Despite the recent plethora of information on evidence-based maternity care practices, there continues to be an underuse of many beneficial interventions while some harmful practices persist. We must continue sharing the evidence with our clients and other health care providers to ensure that all women receive the safest and most effective maternity care,” says Kennedy.

Originally created by Whitney Pinger, CNM, in collaboration with the ACNM DC Chapter, Pearls of Midwifery was first introduced during Washington Hospital Center and Georgetown University grand rounds. After receiving an overwhelming number of positive responses from other health care providers, including physicians, the presentation was adapted for a national audience. The ACNM national office staff provided additional edits, including fully-referenced slides with speaking notes, and a printable checklist that can be copied and shared. ACNM Senior Practice Advisor Eileen Beard, CNM, explains, “Once we saw Whitney’s work, we were thrilled. We knew this was a presentation that would be useful to all of our members, whether they are students, involved in clinical practice, or teaching. On average, we get several calls each week asking for evidence-based materials, and now we have Pearls to share with the members.”

Pearls of Midwifery is free to ACNM members and is available to non-members for a fee via the [ACNM Live Learning Center](#).

###

For more information, contact Yolanda Landon, ACNM Communications Manager at (240) 485-1822 or ylandon@acnm.org.

With roots dating to 1929, the American College of Nurse-Midwives is one of the oldest women's health care associations in the U.S. ACNM's mission is to promote the health and well-being of women and newborns within their families and communities through the development and support of the profession of midwifery as practiced by certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives. Midwives believe every individual has the right to safe, satisfying health care with respect for human dignity and cultural variations. More information about ACNM can be found at www.midwife.org.