



AC³HIEVE

Advancing Community and Clinical Care for Childbirth-related Hypertension:
Implementation, Engagement, and Valuing Equity

Greetings!

We extend a warm welcome to your clinic as a valued partner in the ACHIEVE project, aimed at enhancing maternal healthcare for individuals experiencing hypertensive disorders of pregnancy in North Carolina. We are thrilled to have your participation. This Welcome Letter provides an overview of several components of the ACHIEVE project, and we hope that it is a helpful resource for your team to reference throughout our time together.

By now your clinic has already been introduced to the ACHIEVE nurse coordinator that is assigned to your clinic and will be your main point of contact throughout the project. They will facilitate data collection and Implementation Phase activities concerning care for pregnant and postpartum patients with severe hypertension. Your clinic has already established the primary contact for our team to work with on scheduling these activities with your team. If your clinic's primary contact should change, please inform our team promptly. Both nurse coordinators contact information is listed at the bottom of this letter.

The ACHIEVE project's design has three phases:

1. **Baseline Phase:** Your clinic has completed baseline data collection of BP Technique Observations.
2. **Implementation Phase:** **Beginning April 1, 2024**, your team will engage in activities designed to enhance patient care and include training, coaching sessions, and simulations.
3. **Sustainment Phase:** Following Implementation, chart auditing will continue and ACHIEVE team members will continue visiting your clinic to conduct BP Technique Observations, comparing data to determine effectiveness and sustainability.

Overview of Implementation Phase:

Access the **ACHIEVE Implementation Year at a Glance** [by clicking on this link](#). This one-page resource shares the data to be collected and activities to take place during each of the 12 months.

Implementation includes:

- **Trainings:** The ACHIEVE clinical team will provide two training sessions during this phase that focus on blood pressure measurement technique, best practices for recognition and response to severe hypertension, and respectful care.
- **Coaching Sessions:** Coaching sessions will occur monthly. The purpose of these sessions is to work with your Implementation Team to complete quality improvement activities to improve clinic practices related to hypertension in pregnancy and postpartum.
- **Facilitated Simulations:** Simulation activities provide clinic staff with opportunities to practice recognition and responses to severe hypertension by working through a scenario with a standardized patient.

Data Collection Overview:



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- **Blood Pressure Technique Observations:** Your assigned nurse coordinator will visit the clinic to observe staff members responsible for measuring blood pressure throughout all phases of the project. They will observe their technique for measuring blood pressure on a standardized patient hired by ACHIEVE.
- **Chart Audits:** One of PHS's staff members will pull a list of eligible patients and share it with ACHIEVE's team members so that they can sample and conduct chart audits. Two separate chart audit data collection processes will be conducted:
 - **Patient Education Documentation:** The purpose of these chart audits is to understand when and how patients receive education about pregnancy related hypertension.
 - **Recognition and Response to Episodes of Severe Hypertension:** The purpose of these chart audits is to understand what has happened when a pregnant or postpartum patient has had a severe range blood pressure in your clinic.

CONTRACT AND INVOICING

- ACHIEVE project manager, **Lindsay Bailey** (Lindsay_bailey@med.unc.edu), is your main point of contact for queries related to the terms of your clinic's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), invoicing, and payment.
- On a quarterly basis, Lindsay will email a drafted invoice to a member of your team that has been authorized to grant its approval. Once we receive approval we will process your clinic's incentive payment for the quarter. If the contact for this invoicing approval process should change, please let our team know promptly.

CONNECT WITH OUR TEAM

The ACHIEVE website will launch in early April, and we encourage you to sign up and receive our bi-monthly newsletter. [Follow this link to subscribe.](#)

We are committed to ensuring a positive experience for your team throughout our partnership. In review, your key contacts for the ACHIEVE project are:

- **Scheduling and Activities:** Your clinic's assigned nurse coordinator, which is one of the two contacts listed below. If you are unsure who your nurse coordinator is, you can feel free to reach out to both of these contacts and we will get you in touch with the right person.
 - Shelby Smith Janey, RN, Email at Shelby_smith-janey@med.unc.edu
 - Alasia Ledford, RN, Email at alasia_ledford@med.unc.edu
- **Contract and Invoicing:** Lindsay Bailey, Email at Lindsay_bailey@med.unc.edu
- ACHIEVE Principal Investigator Kate Menard, MD, MPH; Email at kate_menard@med.unc.edu

Warm regards,

Kate Menard, MD MPH

UNC School of Medicine

Principle Investigator, ACHIEVE



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