

## Obstetric Anesthesiologist Involvement on State Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs): A Survey of SOAP State Representatives and MMRC Members



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### INTRODUCTION

- Up to 84% of **US maternal deaths** are preventable
- **MMRCs** review deaths and provide state-level, actionable data
- Obstetric anesthesiologists should be represented on each state MMRC
- The **SOAP State Representatives Program** was founded in 2022
  - tasked to identify a rep for every state, evaluate state MMRC membership

**AIM:** evaluate **OB anesthesiologist representation** on each state MMRC



## METHODS



**The SOAP State Representatives Directory was accessed**

→ listed State Representatives and MMRC members were emailed a survey



- *Verify your role as a SOAP State Representative, MMRC member, or both*
- *Did MMRC anesthesia membership precede or follow the State Reps program?*



**MMRC member survey questions:**

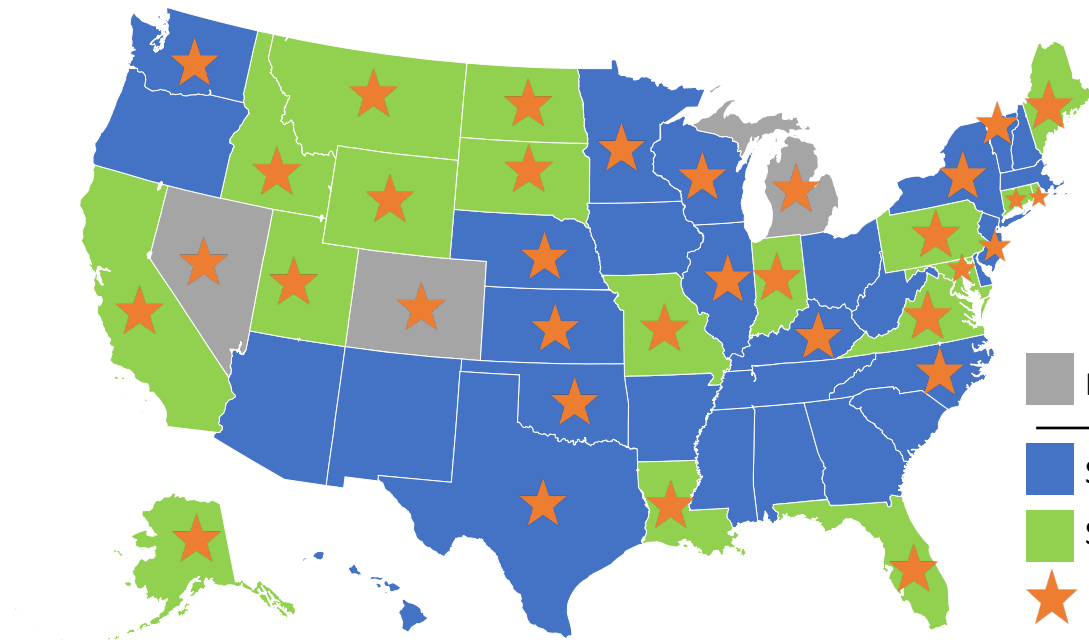
- *What were the top three causes of maternal death reviewed?*
- *What support would you like from the State Reps program?*



## RESULTS

53 State Reps and 22 MMRC members identified on website → surveyed  
→ response from 44 (66%)

- 29 State Reps (54%)
- 19 MMRC members (86%)



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### MMRC MEMBER RESPONSES

- 13 started prior to the program (68%)
- 4 joined through program (21%)
- 2 did not specify (11%)

### MOST COMMONLY REVIEWED DEATHS

- Drug overdose
- Respiratory arrest
- Cardiac arrest



# CONCLUSION



- Further OB anesthesiologist representation is needed in state MMRCs
- The SOAP State Representatives Program can facilitate this initiative
- Top areas identified for further MMRC support: improved networking among OB anesthesiologists, development of easily distributable resources, development of a standardized directory

## OUR NEXT STEPS

Create an easy-to-use directory of all SOAP and MMRC members



Support states with *NO* anesthesia representation on MMRC



Network to disseminate information for better maternal safety

