



EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.



Boston University School of Medicine

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Dear [hospital contact],

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of an important new Massachusetts initiative to improve reproductive health care across the Commonwealth, and to invite you and your colleagues to participate in this program. Through a state grant to Boston Medical Center/Boston University School of Medicine, the **Partners in Contraceptive Choice and Knowledge (PICCK)** program will offer contraceptive training and technical assistance to providers and staff in birth hospitals and their licensed and affiliated health centers across the Commonwealth. The goal of the program is to increase the capacity of these services statewide, and address any existing challenges in providing these services so that all Massachusetts women and families seeking these services receive them.

Although Massachusetts has seen decreases in the rates of unintended pregnancies in recent years, there are still over 50,000 unintended pregnancies in Massachusetts each year. Unintended pregnancies not only increase the risk of poor birth outcomes for mothers and infants, but they also lower the rates of prenatal care and breastfeeding, particularly among vulnerable populations. In providing this funding, Governor Baker has recognized the importance of improving the health of Massachusetts families by improving access to effective contraceptive methods.

The PICCK team will design and tailor the activities to meet the specific needs of each hospital. The timeline for the engagement will depend on the hospitals' needs. The program will be rolled out to the participating sites during the first four years of the program, and may include:

- **Interdisciplinary grand rounds** about the newest approaches to contraceptive counseling and provision
- **On-site clinical training** by fellowship trained OB/GYNs in the form of grand rounds, resident/learner education, lunchtime presentations, videos or demonstrations on topics like:
 - Pregnancy intention assessment
 - Efficient and evidence-based patient-centered contraceptive counseling
 - Immediate postpartum LARC
- **On-site training for non-clinical staff** focusing on billing, coding, stocking, and workflow issues around both inpatient and outpatient LARC, or other methods as needed

In addition to these hospital-based activities, PICCK will host:

- **A webinar series**, expanding on the latest research and best practices in immediate postpartum LARC, shared decision-making in contraception, increasing access to LARC in the outpatient setting, and best practices in emergency contraception
- **A website** that includes such resources as sample guidelines and protocols, provider tools, and information for patients

- **An annual meeting** where providers and staff can meet other hospital participants and learn (for CME/CEU credit) the latest reproductive health information

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you (or your designee) to further describe our program, answer your questions, hear about your interest and needs, and discuss how our team can partner with you and your colleagues. Please let Natasha Lerner, the Program Director, know if you have any questions or would like to meet. If we do not hear back from you, we will attempt to follow up to schedule a time to meet.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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