



Simulations for OB emergencies

Obstetrical emergencies can have devastating consequences for the mother and baby, making early recognition and response essential. AzHHA supports the delivery of OB emergency simulation training for emergency departments across Arizona. These trainings help build readiness where OB expertise may not be onsite.

About the program

AzHHA is working with Laerdal, a leader in healthcare education, to deliver these trainings. The OB emergency simulation covers preeclampsia, postpartum hemorrhage and maternal code scenarios. They are available **for free to members and nonmembers** for emergency departments at OB and non-OB hospitals as well as standalone emergency departments.

Each session is two hours. Four to five learners can participate in each session, and a facility can have up to four sessions in a day.

Simulation learning modules

Each module of emergency simulation-based training includes structured learning objectives to support real-world clinical performance.

Postpartum hemorrhage

A high-stakes, time-pressured postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) simulation that trains interprofessional teams to rapidly recognize bleeding, execute evidence-based interventions, communicate clearly and prevent maternal deterioration.

Learning objectives:

- Demonstrate initial evaluation and preparation for treatment of the patient with postpartum hemorrhage.
- Demonstrate appropriate uterine massage technique in the event of uterine atony.
- Demonstrate correct drug administration and use of blood component therapy.
- Demonstrate the ability to place a uterine balloon for uterine tamponade.

Eclampsia

A high-acuity eclampsia simulation that challenges teams to rapidly recognize seizure activity, stabilize the mother, manage magnesium therapy and coordinate care.

Learning objectives:

- Demonstrate ability to diagnose eclampsia and outline steps in initial, emergent treatment of the eclamptic patient.

- Demonstrate ability to diagnose and treat magnesium toxicity.
- Demonstrate safe and efficient team communication using SBAR and closed-loop.

Cardiac and code: Team code (OB-ACLS, OB-BLS)

A team code simulation that sharpens rapid response, closed-loop communication and role clarity as teams manage sudden maternal deterioration.

Learning objectives:

- Identify the appropriate AHA OB-relevant BLS and ACLS algorithms (including bradycardia and tachycardia) based on the pregnant or postpartum patient presentation.
- Apply institutional OB Code Blue and rapid response policies, incorporating AHA ACLS modifications for pregnancy.
- Demonstrate accurate cardiac rhythm recognition.
- Collaborate effectively within the OB interprofessional team (OB, anesthesia, nursing, NICU, pharmacy) to manage a deteriorating maternal patient while prioritizing maternal stabilization and fetal safety.

Want to participate?

Email maternalhealth@azhha.org if your facility is interested in receiving the training.