

NMPC statement on discriminatory COVID screening practices

In response to a story published by ProPublica on Saturday, 6/13/20, the NMPC Executive Committee released the following statement on 6/14/20:*

The New Mexico Perinatal Collaborative unequivocally condemns the racist practices reported this week at Lovelace Women's Hospital, as well as the implementation of any policies or practices that target individuals for a different standard of care based on race/ethnicity. Such policies harm individuals and families and contribute to stark disparities in perinatal outcomes by race/ethnicity in our state.

The New Mexico Perinatal Collaborative is dedicated to advancing health equity through safe, high-quality, and respectful reproductive, maternity, and newborn care. However, to date, this has represented a commitment in word more than practice. Moving forward, we will leverage our organizational and professional privileges towards dismantling institutional racism in hospitals and other healthcare systems.

A critical aspect of our role is the identification and sharing of best practices with perinatal care providers and hospitals statewide. We are committed to improving our collaborative, moving with a stronger focus on applying an equity lens to any policy or initiative that reaches birthing people and families.

*Read the story here - <https://www.propublica.org/article/a-hospitals-secret-coronavirus-policy-separated-native-american-mothers-from-their-newborns>