MOTHERS ON METHADONE (MOM) PROGRAM

Kent Hospital
Special Care Nursery
Mothers On Methadone (MOM) Program

A comprehensive educational and support program for expectant and post-partum women receiving methadone maintenance and/or opiates for other medical conditions.

455 Toll Gate Road
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886
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Directions to Kent Hospital from points north
Take I-95 south to exit 10-B (Rt. 117 West). At end of ramp bear right onto Centerville Road and turn right at the traffic light to Commonwealth Ave. Go straight to the next traffic light and turn right onto Toll Gate Road (Rt. 115 East). Look for the hospital’s main entrance on your left. Convenient parking is available.

From Connecticut and points south
Take I-95 north to exit 10 (Route 117 East). At bottom of ramp, turn right onto Centerville Road and go to the second traffic light. Take a left onto Toll Gate Road (Rt. 115 West). The hospital is 8 tenths of a mile on your right. Convenient parking is available.

We touch your life like no one else.
Pregnancy can be a stressful time for some women and when special issues exist during pregnancy, it can become overwhelming. Your Obstetrician or Midwife can answer most questions related to your pregnancy. The MOM program is designed to provide educational and support services specifically to mothers who are on methadone maintenance therapy during pregnancy for the treatment of their opioid dependence and for mothers who are on narcotic medications for long term medical conditions such as chronic pain. Our goals are to provide a nurturing environment for you and your newborn and eliminate the myths and stigma sometimes associated with methadone therapy and the treatment of chronic pain. We strive to meet these goals by assuring that our staff as well as our patients are provided with accurate, updated and standardized information on opioid dependence and its effects on pregnancy and the newborn.

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Program Highlights

During pregnancy the MOM Program will help prepare you for the birth of your baby by providing you with:

1. Support and encouragement for your recovery efforts.

2. One-on-one consultation with a qualified, experienced professional to address your concerns and discuss issues such as
   - Methadone and its effects on you during pregnancy.
   - Effects of methadone and/or other opiates on your unborn child.
   - Effects of methadone and/or other opiate withdrawal on your newborn in the first few days of his/her life.

3. Counseling session with an experienced social worker who can assist you in your recovery by helping you access all available community services and resources.

4. Access to cost free prenatal educational classes such as
   - Childbirth Education
   - Breast feeding
   - Infant care
   - Big brother/Big sister
   - Infant CPR

5. Assistance in assuring that your care is well-coordinated by communicating with your obstetrician/midwife and methadone clinic counselor.

During Your Baby’s Hospital Stay:

1. He/she will receive complete medical care needed to treat his/her withdrawal symptoms secondary to exposure to opioids prior to birth.
   - The medical care is provided by well-trained medical and nursing staff in a quiet nurturing environment
   - It will include assessments for any signs of withdrawal that he/she may exhibit and appropriate treatment for these signs and symptoms
   - It will also include close monitoring of his/her nutritional needs

2. We will provide you with complete ongoing information on your baby’s medical condition, treatment, length of hospitalization and recovery.

3. We will also help you prepare to care for him/her at home upon discharge by
   - Educating you on routine newborn care with considerations for his/her special needs, if any
   - Assisting and encouraging frequent, extended visits with your baby, when ever possible
   - Providing lactation assistance
   - Encouraging an overnight stay in hospital with your baby, if necessary
   - Offering ongoing counseling with social worker

4. We also have volunteers who are available to cuddle your baby during times when you are unable to visit.

5. We will continue to support and guide you after discharge of your baby with phone consultation, if needed.