Mercy’s Perinatal Center of Iowa

Advanced care for high-risk pregnancies
Mercy’s Perinatal Center of Iowa has been serving the obstetric community of Iowa since 1993, originally as Des Moines Perinatal Center. We partner with Mercy providers, like you, to help optimize the outcome of pregnant women throughout the state.

Understanding that certain medical conditions can adversely affect the outcome of a pregnancy, and that pregnancy can further complicate a variety of maternal conditions, we are encouraging Mercy physicians that encounter pregnant women with at least one co-morbidity, such as diabetes or chronic hypertension, to refer those patients to PCI for consultation with one of our Maternal-Fetal Medicine board certified physicians. If at the end of that consultation it is the opinion of our physician that the patient is not high-risk, then we will arrange for the patient to be cared for by a general obstetric provider in their community.

For those patients that are found to be high-risk, we will assume care for that patient, providing care throughout their pregnancy, including delivery and postpartum. We will obtain appropriate medical consultations for those patients with significant co-morbidities, such as unstable cardiac disease or end-stage renal disease. At the conclusion of the pregnancy, we will return the patient to your care. We also provide preconceptual consultations for patients that are considering pregnancy but are concerned about the impact of a co-existing medical condition.
Services Provided

Perinatal Center of Iowa is a Mercy clinic with a main campus downtown across from Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines. PCI also has outreach clinics in several communities in central Iowa. Our clinic is staffed by physicians who are board certified in both General Ob/Gyn and the subspecialty of Maternal -Fetal Medicine, as well as experienced perinatal sonographers, central Iowa’s only perinatal genetic counselor, and experienced perinatal mid-level providers.

PCI provides both clinical and hospital services for patients, ranging from complete care for the most complicated patients, or patients needing delivery at a tertiary center, to one-time consultations for patients with stable or non-threatening conditions, such as advanced maternal age. In most instances, our services are intended to supplement the care of the primary obstetric provider, but we are also prepared to step in and provide complete care, to include delivery, when appropriate.

Services provided include

- 3D/4D ultrasound
- Biophysical profile and nonstress testing, including for twins
- Cervical length assessment
- Comprehensive or detailed obstetric ultrasound
- Cordocentesis and intrauterine fetal transfusion
- Doppler assessment of placental and fetal vascular system
- Fetal echocardiogram
- First trimester screening
- Genetic and lung maturity amniocentesis
- Genetic counseling
- Maternal transport with continued primary care of patient after transport
- Office and hospital consultation
- Perinatal hospice
- Prenatal testing and follow-up
Patient Referral Considerations

- Advanced maternal age
- Cardiovascular disease
- Chronic hypertension
- Diabetes, Type I and Type II
- Gastrointestinal disorders, such as Crohn’s disease
- Hematologic diseases, such as sickle cell anemia
- Lupus or other autoimmune disease
- Neoplastic disease, either active or in remission
- Neurologic and psychiatric disorders
- Obesity
- Prior child with genetic or structural abnormality
- Prior obstetric complications, such as preterm delivery, preeclampsia, premature rupture of membranes, stillbirth, multiple early pregnancy losses
- Pulmonary disease, ie, asthma
- Renal and Urinary tract disorders
- Thromboembolic disorders
- Thyroid and other endocrine disorders

Contact information

During business hours:
Phone: (515) 643-6888
Toll-free: (877) 415-7447
Fax: (515) 643-6899
Patient Referral to Mercy’s Perinatal Center of Iowa

When you have a patient who requires the care of a maternal-fetal medicine specialist or an obstetrical ultrasound, contact Mercy’s Perinatal Center of Iowa (PCI) at:

Phone: (515) 643-6888
Toll-free: (877) 415-7447
Fax: (515) 643-6899

See reverse of this card for a listing of issues and conditions that indicate a patient should be referred to our location.
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