



# Standardized Care and Management for Pregnancy with Cancer in a Perioperative Setting

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## Background

The rising occurrence of complex surgeries in pregnant patients with cancer has raised numerous concerns regarding insufficient knowledge and information concerning care coordination, protocols, and available resources.

These concerns have been contributing to delays in the operating room. Operating room delays have adverse effects on patient safety, patient satisfaction scores, and the financial performance of the hospital.

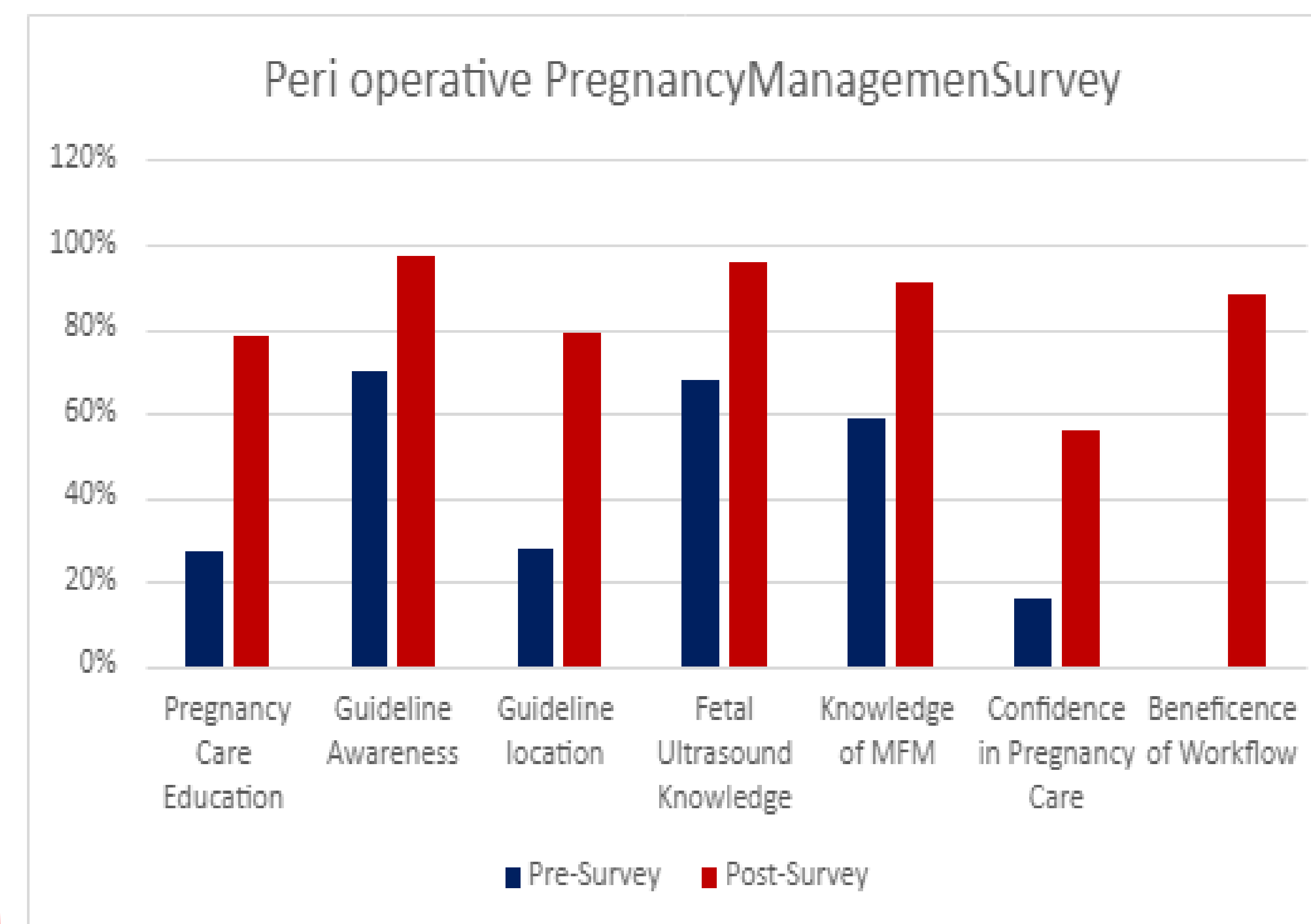
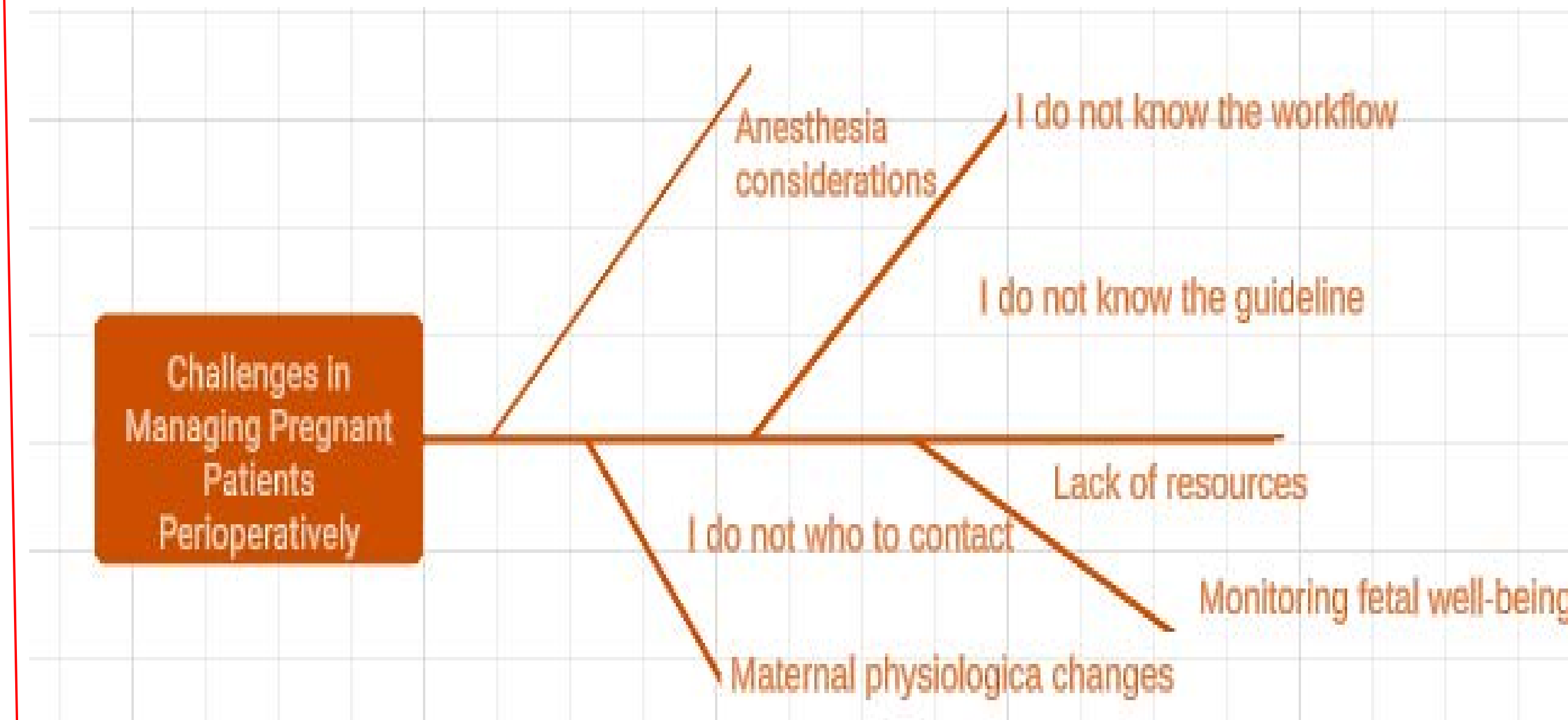
## Objectives

- The primary objective is to elevate the quality of care, ensure patient safety, and bolster nurse confidence in effectively managing this unique patient demographic.
- This initiative entails the creation of a Perioperative Workflow and the implementation of a Pregnant Patient Care Algorithm, along with Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) Consultations prior to surgery.

## Implementation Process

- An online survey among perioperative nursing staff highlighted significant knowledge gaps and deficiencies in workflow and guidelines pertaining to pregnant patients receiving perioperative care.
- To address these issues, a collaborative meeting was convened with a GYN surgeon, resulting in the development of a systematic workflow and the implementation of a Pregnant Patient Care Algorithm and Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) consultation process.
- Furthermore, an educational PowerPoint presentation (PPT) was developed to provide staff with essential information on caring for pregnant patients in the perioperative setting. This was followed by comprehensive training sessions to ensure all staff members were equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills.

## Perioperative Pregnancy Management Challenges



## Results

Following the algorithm's implementation and educational initiatives, an online survey was conducted. The results showed a significant improvement:

- Staff awareness of guidelines and resources increased from 70% to 97%
- Staff awareness of the need for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) and Ultrasound guidelines increased by 30%.
- Those who felt confident in caring for this patient group increased from 16% to 56%.
- Overall knowledge and confidence improved from 2.3 to 3.6 out of 5.
- 88% of staff found the Perioperative pregnancy patient workflow beneficial for understanding proper care processes.

## Implications for Advancing the Practice of Peri Anesthesia Nursing

This initiative empowered nurses to identify essential resources and knowledge for pregnant cancer patients undergoing surgery, boosting their confidence in care coordination.

As a result, it supports the PACU team in providing safe and efficient care for pregnant patients with cancer diagnosis in a perioperative Setting.

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