DEFINING MATERNAL MORTALITY & MORBIDITY
"A pregnancy-related death is ... the death of a woman while pregnant or **within 1 year** of the end of a pregnancy – regardless of the outcome, duration, or site of the pregnancy – from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes."¹

"Maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or **within 42 days** of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes."²

Maternal morbidity is “any health condition attributed to and/or aggravated by pregnancy and childbirth that has a negative impact on the woman’s wellbeing.”³

"Severe maternal morbidity can be thought of as unintended outcomes of the process of labor and delivery that result in significant short-term or long-term consequences to a woman’s health.” “It also can be considered a **near miss for maternal mortality**”.⁴

Increasing trend in U.S. reflects higher m-mortality rate among non-Hispanic Blacks

Trends in m-mortality ratio
(maternal deaths / 100,000 live births)
By ethnic group and race (U.S., 2005 – 2014).
P-values are from Jonckheere trend tests.

Major causes of pregnancy-related death in U.S. (2011–2014) as reported by the CDC

Cause of death is unknown for 6.5% of all pregnancy-related deaths.
Putting U.S. SMM in perspective

• Each year, more than 50,000 women have severe pregnancy complications (e.g., hemorrhage), also known as severe maternal morbidity (SMM).

• SMM has been steadily increasing in recent years, and the rate more than doubled from 2000 to 2010.

• Chronic conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity—may put women at higher risk of pregnancy complications.

www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/publications/aag/maternal.htm
IMPROVING MATERNAL HEALTH TAKES A VILLAGE

Photo Credit: Ms. Patricia Deal (Army Medicine)
Many groups working to improve maternal health

• These numbers set the stage.
• Groups represented here today are working to improve maternal health. Notably, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (keynote address)
• Panel discussion will highlight specific problems and efforts to advance the research agenda to address them.
• Federal partners will provide an update on their activities to address maternal health.
Major causes of pregnancy-related death (2018)

Pregnancy-Related Deaths in the US

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leading underlying causes of pregnancy-related deaths</th>
<th>Preventability among pregnancy-related deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hemorrhage</td>
<td>70.0% of pregnancy-related deaths from hemorrhage are preventable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular and coronary conditions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infection</td>
<td>68.2% of pregnancy-related deaths from cardiovascular and coronary conditions are preventable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiomyopathy</td>
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<td>Embolism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preeclampsia and eclampsia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental health conditions</td>
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</tbody>
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Thank You