

**NEWS RELEASE**

Media Contact: Camille Strickland

Tel. 213.748.2411

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## **CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL RECEIVES AWARD FOR PERINATAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE**

**Los Angeles, CA** — California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) recently received The Samuel R. Sherman Award from the Institute for Medical Quality for its Perinatal Health Collaborative of Los Angeles initiative. The Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ) presents the award to organizations that demonstrate innovation in continuing medical education (CME) planning, and successfully link CME and organizational performance improvement.

California Hospital Medical Center's interdisciplinary initiative is focused on improving maternal and infant health outcomes by providing primary care physicians and clinicians with evidenced-based standards and tools. Planned as a quarterly series, the initiative uses a team approach to deliver the content and incorporates a quarterly review of patient data; identification of areas for improvement; sharing of national evidence-based clinical guidelines; and an exercise to help the audience develop strategies for implementation of the guidelines in their own clinics.

Led by Dr. Lynn Yonekura, the initiative addresses a critical need in Los Angeles County where 15,000 babies are born prematurely each year. The expected results for the County are 20% reduction in preterm births, 50% increase in breastfeeding, and 50% increase in 6-week postpartum visits. The series is well on its way to achieving these expected results.

The IMQ's award is named after Dr. Samuel Sherman, a physician who worked with CME providers at both the national and state level during his career. It recognizes Dr. Sherman's contributions to the field, which includes the establishment of quality assurance - now called performance improvement – as an integral part of continuing medical education. The award is given by IMQ at its annual CME Provider Conference.

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### **About California Hospital Medical Center**

California Hospital Medical Center has been providing high quality, indispensable care to downtown and its neighboring communities since 1887. California Hospital Medical Center is a 319-bed acute care hospital known for its wide range of specialties, from Orthopedics and Surgery to Maternity and Neonatal Intensive Care. It is also the area's only Level II Trauma Center. For more information, please visit [www.chmcla.org](http://www.chmcla.org).