



April 1, 2026

Dear Colleague:

Preventing severe maternal morbidity and mortality requires intentional, coordinated care across multiple clinical disciplines. Obstetric and maternal-fetal medicine clinicians often identify health concerns in pregnant and postpartum women, including cardiovascular, neurologic, renal, endocrine, hematologic, and other complex conditions that require timely specialty consultation, coordination of care, and ongoing co-management. When referrals are clear, efficient, and well-coordinated, patients are more likely to receive the right care at the right time in the right setting.

To strengthen this coordination, we are working with the Medical Association of Georgia and the Georgia Obstetrical and Gynecological Society to establish **the Georgia Maternal Health Referral Network to improve the referral process and patient access to care across the state. All physicians practicing in Georgia are encouraged to participate in the network.** By connecting maternal care teams with cardiologists, neurologists, nephrologists, endocrinologists, and other specialists, the network will support earlier diagnosis, smoother care transitions, and improved follow-up during pregnancy and beyond.

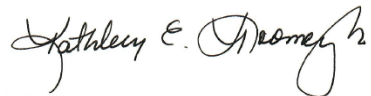
An easy-to-use, HIPAA-compliant app provides access to this network and can be downloaded and accessed on a smartphone, laptop, or desktop computer. A referring provider can enter information about a patient, including name, address (including the distance the patient can travel), medical history, insurance information, and the required medical specialty or subspecialty. Specialty providers engaged with the network will receive a notification that a referral is being requested. The provider can review the information and contact the patient and/or referring provider to schedule an appointment. Medical records from the referring and accepting providers can be transmitted via the network to ensure providers involved in the patient's care have the needed patient information.

Any physician may join the Georgia Maternal Health Referral network by claiming their profile on gmhi.net, completing their information, and then participating in this app-based network's referral, communication, and care coordination tools. For any assistance with onboarding or questions about GMHI, please contact Sarah Moran, Director of Operations & Membership at the Medical Association of Georgia, at smoran@mag.org or 678-303-9261. Participation in this network signifies your willingness to be listed as a referral resource for pregnant and postpartum patients whose medical conditions intersect with your specialty. Your engagement will help reduce delays in consultations and treatment, support more comprehensive management of chronic and acute conditions, and ultimately improve health outcomes for women and families across Georgia, particularly in rural areas.

As a fellow physician, I urge you to partner with maternal care teams by joining the Georgia Maternal Health Referral Network. Together, we can build a more coordinated system that ensures that women receive the specialty care they need to survive and thrive during pregnancy, postpartum, and beyond.

Thank you for your participation in this important collaborative partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen E. Toomey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kathleen E. Toomey, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner and State Health Officer