

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY  
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,  
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK  
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



# TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH  
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED  
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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## TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	<b>NOWS-NM: A Web-Based Training Curriculum in Best Practices for the Care of Newborns with Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome, Focusing on Rural Community Hospitals in a High Poverty Region</b>
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
Presenting Author	Heather Pratt-Chavez
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Country	United States
Abstract N°	TUFH509
Content	<p>Background: The incidence of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome (NOWS) has grown dramatically over the past two decades particularly in rural communities. Providers in rural community hospitals often lack support and the proper resources to care for infants with NOWS and therefore transfer infants with NOWS to urban hospitals. Such transfers result in diminished maternal involvement in postnatal care which may disrupt mother-infant bonding and other critical developmental processes, including breast-feeding and early skin-to skin contact. Methods: We have developed an online curriculum called NOWS-NM to provide instruction in evidence-based practices for treating infants with NOWS. Fortunately, best practices for these infants are defined by enhancing non-pharmacologic care and maternal – infant bonding utilizing trauma-informed care, which do not require costly hospital resources. The curriculum is being pilot-tested as part of a quality improvement initiative in a rural community hospital in Socorro New Mexico, a community with high rates of poverty in central New Mexico. Results: Preliminary results indicate the curriculum produces substantial improvements in knowledge of and attitudes toward evidence-based practices for NOWS in providers and staff. Conclusion: We are currently refining the curriculum for wider distribution. The final version of NOWS-NM curriculum will be a highly accessible, low-bandwidth, web-based training resource addressing the needs of healthcare providers and patient populations in rural communities. The goal is to keep mothers and babies together in their home communities.</p>