

Babies Remembered

Honoring and Remembering Babies Who Have Died

Volume III Issue 1 (#9) January/February/March 2011

Comprehensive Continuity of Care With Intention

Comprehensive and Compassionate Continuity of Care throughout the entire clinic/hospital system is a standard that should be available to all parents when they learn their baby has died, has a fatal anomaly, or unexpected diagnosis. This issue offers the reasons behind and the how to's of such important topics as: **Giving bad news and the important Role of Physicians/Midwives, Slowing down the process and Birth Planning and Companionship Services, Empowering parents to have more control of their care, Being well-prepared at each point of patient contact, and Helping families have few regrets.** The most critical preparation for delivering this excellent care is to ***Know Your Intention***. What are the final outcomes you wish to see for each family and what will you and your colleagues do about it? The concept of ***Care with Intention*** may be a paradigm shift, especially for some careproviders. This e-Magazine explores in depth the ***Continuity of Care and Care with Intention***.

Summary findings

Hospital Care for Parents After Perinatal Death Katherine Gold, et. al.

“Although care after perinatal death often adheres to published guidelines, substantial room for improvement is apparent. Parents with perinatal losses report few choices during labor and delivery and inadequate communication about burial options and autopsy results. Hospitals, nurses, and doctors should increase parental choice about timing and location of delivery and postpartum care, encourage parental contact with the deceased infant, and facilitate provision of photos and memorabilia.

“In general, parents reported appreciating time and contact with their deceased infant, being given options about labor, delivery, and burial, receiving photographs and memorabilia, and having appropriate hospital follow-up after autopsy.”

To read more on this article that collected data from 60 studies and 6200 parents, visit pages 8-9.

(Gold, *Obstet Gynecol* 2007)

Parents and Family

This e-Magazine has an special purpose and we need your help to accomplish it. **To improve the continuity of care at all points in the clinic/hospital system. And to promote *Care with Intention*.**

Please make copies or send electronically to your medical caregivers and area hospitals, clinics and other care providers.

Their role at the clinic setting, during the ultrasound (whether the Tech can answer your question or offer a sign of concern, but not a diagnosis), in the hospital, and then back at the clinic/office **MATTERS!**

“Gold found that insensitive remarks by care providers could complicate the grieving process for parents.” (2007).

Suzanne Pullen, *Giving Birth to Death* (2008)



Sherokee Ilse: The author of **Empty Arms**, 17 books/pamphlets dealing with grief and loss, and the magazine 'Babies Remembered'. "I have been helping both parents and professionals in the field of stillbirth and infant loss, as well as promoting research on probable causes for stillbirth to save babies lives for over 28 years. I am a bereaved mother, a parent advocate, and a professional author and educator. Feel free to contact me re:speaking engagements, consulting tailored to your institution, my books, new DVDs, the new CEU units for nurses, or other info.

www.babiesremembered.org, info@babiesremembered.org or by phone 952-476-1303.

NEW WEB RESOURCES

Faces of Loss Faces of Hope.org

New Website Connects Parents and Puts a Face on Pregnancy and Infant Loss.

Faces of Loss, Faces of Hope was founded in July, 2010 as a place for survivors of miscarriage, stillbirth, and infant loss, to come together, find support, and connect with others who understand where they're coming from.

The website currently has over 700 real stories of loss, categorized and searchable by keyword, type, date, and stage of loss, and location, a blog directory, an extensive list of resources for both parents and friends and family, a forum, a related Facebook group, an awareness website, monthly writing challenges, gift exchanges, giveaways, and more.

In addition to the website, *Faces of Loss, Faces of Hope* also has over 90 *Face2Face Friendship Groups* across the country. These are not traditional 'support groups,' but rather informal gatherings of friends who share a deep common bond. The *Face2Face* program was just launched in January, and more and more groups have formed and are added to the directory every day.

GrieveOutLoud.org

Another New Website that Connects Parents to other Parents through a Pen Pal match.

After having a loss, it is no time to be alone. The Pen-Pal Program is designed to link you and a fellow babyloss mother, father or grandparent together. Grieve Out Loud has many wonderful team members who have all suffered pregnancy and infant loss.

To find a Pen Pal, email grieveoutloud@gmail.com. Please include your **name, e-mail, mailing address** and a **brief description of your loss**.

From the website:

"I feel so empty and alone"

"We're here to listen. Your aren't alone."

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