

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of pregnancy-related mortality, and a major cause of pregnancy-related morbidity. The United States is the only developed country to have rising pregnancy-related mortality. The burden of pregnancy-related mortality and morbidity has strong disparities by race and socioeconomic status. Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than White women. While there is a growing population of reproductive aged persons with cardiovascular disease, cardiovascular disease can also develop during or following pregnancy.

There are many challenges facing the cardiology community in addressing pregnancy-related mortality and morbidity. The recent *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling by the supreme court has added to these challenges, creating drastically different access to reproductive healthcare from state to state. This adds a substantial challenge in states without access or with significantly restricted access to abortion care. Cardiology and obstetrical providers can expect to be caring for patients with more significant cardiovascular problems during pregnancy.

The American College of Cardiology (ACC) acknowledges the key role cardiology plays in these issues. Care for these patients requires a multidisciplinary approach with close collaboration between cardiovascular specialists, obstetricians, and other clinicians involved in reproductive and maternal care to ensure optimal outcomes. Engaging patients in shared decision-making to support their cardiovascular and reproductive health goals is another key component of effective care delivery.

The *Reproductive and Maternal Care for the Cardiovascular Patient* virtual Heart House Roundtable will explore gaps in reproductive and maternal care for patients with cardiovascular disease – including access to comprehensive care, contraception, risk of complications, and health disparities.

The Roundtable will draw on the collective experiences and wisdom of key experts, to discuss and prioritize specific needs, barriers to access, and care protocols to help drive better comprehensive care preconception through postpartum for patients with cardiovascular disease. Discussion questions focused on clinical decision-making aim to identify practical guidance for the multidisciplinary care teams involved in the everyday care of this patient population.

## Heart House Roundtables

The Heart House Roundtables explore the practical issues that clinicians and patients face every day within high-value clinical areas. These meetings are grounded in the concept of convening a broad range of expertise to include representatives from professional societies, patients, federal agencies, integrated health systems, and others as identified.

Through interactive and in-depth discussions, participants not only identify and clarify gaps in clinical care, but also brainstorm potential solutions to help drive better patient care and outcomes.

Roundtables have historically been used to inform the development of actionable content to include clinical policy as well as clinician and patient tools to be used at the point of care.

For more information, visit [ACC.org/clinicalsolutions](https://www.acc.org/clinicalsolutions)