

OBBO and “Birthin’ a Full-Term Buckeye Baby”

With a full-service maternity, delivery and women’s health system available to employees and their families, Ohio State has a host of resources available to support expectant mothers in The OSU Health Plan in having a healthy, full-term baby.

As a member of the Ohio Better Birth Outcomes (OBBO) initiative, a communitywide project to promote healthy pregnancy and prevent pre-term labor, Ohio State is also “walking the walk” in raising awareness about the importance of prenatal care in preventing premature babies. The OSU Health Plan gives pregnant women who have delivered prematurely (at less than 37 weeks) in the past or are at risk for preterm labor access to additional resources, including referrals to high-risk specialists and coverage for medications like 17-hydroxy progesterone caproate (17-P), which has been indicated to delay or prevent pre-term labor.

“The goal is to birth the healthiest Buckeye babies we can,” Lorena Owings director of Medical Management at The OSU Health Plan said. “It’s a collaborative effort based on our relationship with our providers and the resources of the Medical Center and it all comes down to timing. Moms need to get treatment in a certain window of time to prevent preterm birth, and all moms need to be at their healthiest before, during and after pregnancy.”

Helpful information about many aspects of pregnancy and caring for newborns can be found at:

- Visit www.medicalcenter.osu.edu/go/maternity to view classes offered by the OSU Medical Center and a link to register.
- March of Dimes, www.marchofdimes.com/pnhec/pnhec.asp
- www.Text4baby.org is a free mobile information service designed to promote maternal and child health, courtesy of National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition.