Supervisor/Project Information Form

Due February 14, 2018 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

PLEASE SUBMIT IN WORD FORMAT ONLY. PDF will not be accepted

Supervisor Name: Dr. Catherine Varner

Hospital/Research Institution: Mount Sinai Hospital / Schwartz / Reisman Emergency Medicine Institute

Email: catherine.varner@sinahealthsystem.ca

Field of Research (2 keywords): pregnancy and emergency medicine

Department: Emergency Medicine

School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? Yes/No: Yes

If YES, please name: Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME)

Project Title: Experiences of Early Pregnancy Loss in Emergency Departments of Toronto Hospitals

Brief Project Description (~300 words):

Early pregnancy loss, also known as miscarriage, is the most common complication in early pregnancy. Up to 20% of pregnancies result in miscarriage, with 80% of these occurring before the 12th week of gestation. Despite the high frequency of miscarriages, studies around the world show emergency departments (ED) fail to provide the compassionate care and emotional support during this traumatic time, and the experience in Canada is no exception. Several studies have found experiencing miscarriage can lead to depression, anxiety or post-traumatic stress disorder, regardless of fetal age.

Although several studies have explored the experiences and perceptions of women seeking miscarriage care in EDs in the United States, Australia and other countries, there is a paucity of data about the experiences of women in Toronto, Canada. It is vital to fill this knowledge gap in order to ensure patients are being well supported in order to lessen the impact of adverse outcomes on their futures. For this qualitative research study, we will interview patients whom have experienced early pregnancy loss to better understand the expectations and experiences of women in Toronto EDs. With the assistance of an experienced qualitative methods scientist, the student will enroll patients and subsequently conduct approximately 20 one-on-one interviews. These recorded interviews will then be thematically analyzed and summarized in manuscript form to be submitted to a peer-reviewed, scientific journal.