



There are not enough words to describe the impact of the loss of a pregnancy or infant. We at the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Study, offer our sincerest condolences and sympathy during this time.

"Grief is the last act of love we can give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."

– Unknown



If you have questions or would like more information about the FIMR Study please contact:

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Program Sponsor
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FETAL & INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW STUDY (FIMR)

Principal Investigator: Deborah Anne Boyle, MD

What is Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR)

FIMR is the work of local, state, and national organizations to improve the health and well-being of mothers and infants and reduce infant deaths.

The pain of pregnancy and infant loss is difficult for parents, family members, and friends. There are some things we know about the causes of infant deaths. However, we want to learn more about non-medical issues that may also add to losses. The FIMR study needs your help to better understand life factors that impact pregnancy and infant health. We want to talk with you, your spouse, partner and your family about the loss of your pregnancy or infant. This interview will help us learn more about what can be done to make a difference.

Helping Us to Learn More About Pregnancy and Infant Loss

Your story is important to help us understand and lower fetal and infant losses. During the interview you and your family will be able to share your story. Everyone's life is different and with these stories we can get a better understanding of your life and your loss.

Your story will help us make changes, advocate for better supports and provide resources to meet the needs of mothers and infants for more positive outcomes. Families have said that sharing their story has been comforting. Some feel the sharing of their story honors their baby's memory by possibly preventing future losses.

People Who Take Part in the FIMR Study

We are looking to talk with people from Chicago who:

- Have had a pregnancy loss at 20 weeks gestational age and up
- Have had an infant loss
- Are 18 years of age or older

Taking part in the study is voluntary and we will keep your privacy. If you agree to take part, a trained interviewer will contact you. A gift card is also provided for taking part.

There are many reasons people participate in this study.

- Families get to share their story in their own words
- Families can help create or improve supports and resources
- It is an opportunity for families and communities to come together to work on issues impacting their communities

Families are connected with needed support services and other community resources

Support During a Time of Loss

Families wonder how their story can lead to change. FIMR Chicago has created a website about the FIMR process.

You can visit the site at www.fimrchicago.org The website explains the FIMR process, has community support resources, and shares actions that have been developed from FIMR stories.



What Comes Next?

The loss of a pregnancy or infant is hard on the body and mind. The following are suggestions from the March of Dimes to help during this time:

- Be patient. It may take a long time for parents to return to their usual activities. There is no right or wrong time to grieve
- Try to keep to the same sleeping time. Get up and go to bed at your usual time
- Be sure to keep a well-balanced diet
- Attend your postpartum medical appointments to make sure you are healing
- Talk to your provider if you have a fever, worsening abdominal pain or vaginal bleeding

If you are having harmful thoughts, thinking about suicide or death please call 911 or go to the nearest hospital for help.

