

## RECENT RESEARCH TO INFORM RURAL AND FAMILY PHYSICIAN OB CARE

The evidence to inform decisions about the appropriate level of obstetrical services to offer at rural and remote hospitals is sparse. At this session, we will review recent evidence from our group showing how obstetrical outcomes are affected by poor geographic access to obstetrical services, and the impact of delivering at hospitals of different annual delivery volumes and levels of service. We will also attempt to apply these findings to real world health system decisions presented to us by the audience. If they wish to discuss cases, audience members should come with information about the obstetrical service level and volume at the hospital of interest as well as the next closest hospitals, and the distance between these hospitals.

1. Cite evidence comparing obstetrical outcomes between family physicians and obstetricians.
2. Use recent evidence to make decisions about the appropriate level of obstetrical service to offer at hospitals of a given size and remoteness from other hospitals.