

Black women are 2 – 3x more likely than white women to die of a pregnancy-related cause.¹



>80% of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable.²

Dr. Elizabeth Howell, former founding director of Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai's Blavatnik Family Women's Health Research Institute,³ proposed a 3-point model to help reduce Black maternal health disparities:³

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Promote a culture of equity for all women from preconception care through prenatal care and postpartum care.

Educate doctors and medical staff about health care disparities in Black women during pregnancy and in general.

Engage patients in shared decision-making.

*As of March 2023, Dr. Howell is chair of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System.

1. Working Together to Reduce Black Maternal Mortality. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 6 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthequity/features/maternal-mortality/index.html>
2. CDC: Over 80% of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable. American Hospital Association, Sept. 19 2022. <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2022-09-19-cdc-over-80-pregnancy-related-deaths-are-preventable>
3. Howell EA. Reducing Disparities in Severe Maternal Morbidity and Mortality. Clin Obstet Gynecol. 2018 Jun;61(2):387-399. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5915910/>