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## Compassionate care for perinatal and neonatal loss



**Novant Health Family Perinatal and Neonatal Supportive Care services help guide your patients toward hope and healing.**

Whether a devastating prenatal diagnosis places a pregnancy in “high risk” status or an infant will face a medically complex or potentially life-limiting condition after delivery, informing the parents is one of the toughest duties any ob-gyn can perform. To assist families and their physicians through these heartbreaking situations, Novant Health created the Family Perinatal and Neonatal Supportive Care team.

### **Family Perinatal and Neonatal Supportive Care**

Beginning as early as possible in each patient’s case, the multidisciplinary specialty team works alongside maternal fetal medicine physicians to provide specialized, compassionate care that realistically addresses the physical, emotional, spiritual and cultural challenges a family may face, encompassing pregnancy, delivery and aftercare.

Through honest, unbiased conversations and guidance, the care team helps patients navigate the healthcare system, learn problem-solving and symptom management strategies, make choices regarding end-of-life care and, perhaps most importantly, acknowledge their baby’s unique place in the family, making the most of what time they may have together.

The program team will develop a highly individualized advance care plan that best aligns with the child’s medical status and the family’s wishes.

Upon admission to Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center, this advance care plan will be accessible to all caregivers to ensure that our team provides your patient with remarkable care.

### **Bereavement care**

Whether due to miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth or newborn death, prenatal and neonatal mortality can cause intense shock and sorrow over the loss of all that might have been. To help grieving families come to terms with the loss of their baby, Novant Health created a bereavement care program that focuses on providing emotional support in a compassionate and welcoming environment.

Bereavement care gives families time and space to demonstrate their loving connection to the baby, gather keepsakes to cherish and participate in the activities and rituals that will be most comforting and meaningful. Individual grief counseling provides each family with personalized guidance on managing practical aspects, such as a funeral or other disposition options, handling conversations and questions regarding the death with others, and preserving a sense of hope for the future.

In addition, connecting families to a bereavement support group offers grieving families the opportunity to share feelings and discuss difficult topics with others who have been through similar experiences.

Visit [NovantHealth.org/obreferral](https://www.novanthealth.org/obreferral) or call 336-277-BABY (2229) to make a referral.

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