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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology Announces Recipients of 2025 SOAP Center of Excellence Designation

April 8, 2026 – The Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP) is pleased to announce the following institutions and obstetric anesthesia programs have attained the prestigious SOAP Center of Excellence (COE) designation:

- Danbury Hospital – Danbury, Connecticut
- Emory University at Grady Memorial Hospital – Atlanta, Georgia
- Emory University Hospital Midtown – Atlanta, Georgia
- Lenox Hill Hospital – New York, New York
- Pavilion for Women Texas Children’s Hospital Won’s Center North Austin – Austin, Texas
- Saint Mark’s Hospital – Millcreek, Utah
- San Giovanni Hospital – EOC Switzerland – Bellinzona, Canton Ticino, Switzerland
- University of California, Irvine – Orange, California
- Wexford Hospital, Allegheny Health Network – Wexford, Pennsylvania

The designation was awarded January 31, 2025, to the institutions and programs listed above and will remain valid for four years.

The following institutions and obstetric anesthesia programs have renewed the prestigious SOAP Center of Excellence (COE) designation initially granted in 2021:

- Baylor College of Medicine – Houston, Texas
- Kitasato University Hospital – Sagami City, Kanagawa, Japan
- Memorial Hermann Hospital – Texas Medical Center – Houston, Texas
- Parkland Hospital Center – UT Southwestern – Dallas, Texas
- Pro Matre Paulista – Grupo Santa Joana – Sao Paulo, Brazil
- University of Colorado – Aurora, Colorado

The designation was awarded January 31, 2026, to the institutions and programs listed above and will remain valid for four years.



The SOAP Center of Excellence designation recognizes institutions and programs that demonstrate excellence in obstetric anesthesia care, sets a benchmark level of expected care to improve the standards nationally, and provides a broad surrogate quality metric of institutions providing obstetric anesthesia care.

The criteria for the COE designation cover various domains including personnel and staffing; equipment, protocols, and policies; simulation and team training; obstetric emergency management; cesarean delivery and labor analgesia care; recommendations and guidelines implementation; and quality assurance and patient follow-up systems. The criteria for the SOAP COE designation, which covers all aspects of obstetric anesthesia care, were generated by expert consensus and incorporate evidence-based recommendations.

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