

Termination of Pregnancy for Medical Reasons: A Unique Grief

Termination of pregnancy due to the fetal anomaly (TOPFA) during or after the second trimester may present an immediate and existential crisis for expectant parents. This presentation explores the unique grief of people who experience TOPFA compared to other perinatal losses and introduces the population and the individual factors leading them to seek therapy. While TOPFA has been explored in qualitative research, few practice-based articles address the nuts and bolts of therapeutic intervention and how to approach people's attempts to grieve and mourn this loss. Successful, sensitive, and informed therapeutic interventions rooted in theoretical perspectives, including continuing bonds and ambiguous loss, may result in making meaning from their grief. Attendees will learn how to apply theory to practice by introducing a model in which to conduct therapy entitled ACCEPT and illustrate the intervention through the experience of a composite patient.

Dr. Erica Goldblatt Hyatt (they/them) is an administrator, clinician, and author with nearly 20 years of experience in death and dying, grief and loss, and reproductive healthcare. As of January 2023, they are tasked with creating a community-engaged reproductive justice initiative at and beyond Rutgers University School of Social Work.



Target Audience: Social Workers and Mental Health Providers

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the unique presentation of people who present to therapy following termination of pregnancy due to fetal anomaly and reasons why they have been historically underserved.
- Appreciate the multiple presentations and factors influencing grief in patients who have terminated a pregnancy for fetal anomaly.
- Apply the ACCEPT intervention to support bereavement work in a sample case study of a patient who terminated a pregnancy for fetal anomaly.

Social Work Continuing Education Hours:

This program provides 3 CE hours for social workers and licensed professional counselors.

Successful Completion: To receive CEUs for attending the live continuing education program, the registrant must sign in for the webinar, attend the entire presentation (as defined by at least 80%), and complete and submit an evaluation. A certificate of completion will be distributed within one week of the live program.

Disclosure/Commercial Support: The planners and speaker do not have any conflicts of interest to report for this activity. There is no commercial support for this activity.

Cost: \$20 for general public

No cost for our Northern NJ partners
Partnership Member Hospital Staff
(View [Member Hospital List](#))
NJDOH & DCF Staff
Northern New Jersey nonprofit organizations

Use code PMCHMH when registering. You will be asked to submit your work email address and place of employment at time of registration.

For those who do not qualify to use the code, contact Sarah at srobbins@pmch.org to inquire about scholarship opportunities.

Registration: Click [here](#) or scan the code to register for the program.

