

Soundbite Script – Broadcast –The Dangers of Chronic High Blood Pressure and Pregnancy

Dr. Jamie Plett, OB/GYN, OSF HealthCare

“I think there are a lot of factors that play into that and recently as the American population becomes more unhealthy, the chronic medical conditions are going to play into that as well that includes things like diabetes, high blood pressure, and specifically, obesity. All those things will tie into higher risks for mom and baby as well. I just think in general as American health is becoming worse overall and it’s affecting pregnant moms, too.”

Dr. Jamie Plett, OB/GYN, OSF HealthCare

“That happens frequently because there are a lot of different things that play into health care in the United States, whether that’s insurance coverage, the ability to access health care or because of prolonged limited access to health care that also increases chronic medical conditions in those women. Studies have proven over and over again that maternal morbidity rates are higher and chronic health problems are higher in Black women and other women of color.”

Dr. Jamie Plett, OB/GYN, OSF HealthCare

“One of the things we worry about is something called intrauterine growth restriction or is the baby getting enough blood flow to grow like they should, so that’s one of the things to keep an eye on with every pregnant woman.”

Dr. Jamie Plett, OB/GYN, OSF HealthCare

“Get treated as best as you can before pregnancy. If you find out that you have chronic hypertension early in the pregnancy be vigilant in doing the exercise and dietary changes that you can control, take medicine as you need to and then we’ll monitor you more closely. And know that you’re a higher risk for some things, but some things can be prevented.”