

## MEDIA STATEMENT

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### HER Foundation Responds to Duchess of Cambridge's Third Pregnancy, Treatment for Hyperemesis Gravidarum (HG)

Portland, OR – Sept. 4, 2017 – In response to the announcement of Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge's [third pregnancy and treatment for hyperemesis gravidarum](#) (HG), the Hyperemesis Education and Research (HER) Foundation extends best wishes for the health of mother and baby during this joyful yet challenging time.

Distinct from "[morning sickness](#)" common in most healthy pregnancies, [HG](#) is characterized by weight loss, malnutrition, and dehydration due to severe vomiting and/or nausea. Severity and duration of symptoms vary, but HG remains the leading cause of hospitalization in early pregnancy and a debilitating medical condition that can have [serious health consequences](#) for both mom and baby. It is particularly threatening to mothers without immediate access to effective treatment and IV nutritional support.

"While the Duchess of Cambridge is undoubtedly receiving the proactive and knowledgeable care that has an enormous positive impact on her and the baby's health, our hearts go out to her as she again experiences the disruption of health, work, and family life that many thousands of HG women endure each year." said Kimber Wakefield MacGibbon, R.N., HER Foundation co-founder and director. "It is our hope that through increased funding for HG research, in addition to [education](#), we can restore some of the pregnancy joy for mothers with HG, so they and their babies have a healthier future."

The Duchess's third pregnancy comes at a time of great promise and hope for HG women and families:

- HER Foundation and UCLA Health have partnered on the first [HG care app](#), just released for user testing. For more information, contact Dr. Marlena Fejzo: [mfejzo@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:mfejzo@mednet.ucla.edu).
- HER Foundation will join partners and colleagues at the [Second International Colloquium on Hyperemesis Gravidarum](#), October 5-6 in Windsor, U.K., which brings together the world's leading HG researchers and clinicians.
- HER Foundation is collaborating with Dr. Marlena Fejzo at UCLA & USC on [groundbreaking HG research](#), including the first [genetics studies](#).

Learn more: [www.helper.org](http://www.helper.org).

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#### **About HER Foundation**

*For 15 years, the Hyperemesis Education and Research (HER) Foundation has been the global voice of HG. HER is the leading source of information, advocacy and support worldwide, and helps improve the health of many women and children.*