Perinatal Quality Collaboratives: Working Together to Improve Maternal Outcomes

Overview
Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (PQCs) serve an important role, providing infrastructure that supports quality improvement efforts addressing obstetric care and outcomes. State-based PQCs partner with hospitals, providers, nurses, patients, public health, and other stakeholders to provide opportunities for collaborative learning, rapid response data, and quality improvement science support to achieve systems-level change.

Improving Maternal Outcomes
PQCs have contributed to important changes in healthcare and led to significant improvements in maternal and infant outcomes. For example:

- The Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative improved timely treatment for women with severe high blood pressure, increasing the percentage of patients treated within 60 minutes from 41% at baseline to 79% in the first year of the project.

- The Northern New England Perinatal Quality Improvement Network improved care for women with opioid use disorder, increasing access to the lifesaving medication naloxone (11% to 36%) and breastfeeding counseling (51% to 72%) over a 13-month time period.

- The California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative reduced serious pregnancy complications among women with severe bleeding during pregnancy or delivery, decreasing rates by 22.7% at baseline to 18.0% in the last half of the 14-month project.
The Future of PQCs

Given the urgent challenges facing maternal and newborn health across the country, there is an important role for PQCs nationwide.

- PQCs can adapt and address critical current and emergent perinatal health issues facing our nation.

- CDC will continue to support strong science that demonstrates the impact of using a collaborative population-based approach to improve the quality of care for our nation’s moms and babies.

- As state maternal mortality review committees (MMRCs) develop clinical recommendations to improve maternal outcomes, PQCs will be a key partner in implementing recommendations more broadly across health facility networks.

For more information, visit [CDC’s PQC webpage](https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/erase-mm/index.html) and read [Advances in Maternal Fetal Medicine – Perinatal Quality Collaboratives: Working Together to Improve Maternal Outcomes](https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/erase-mm/index.html).

Supporting PQCs

CDC’s Division of Reproductive Health (DRH) is currently providing support for state-based PQCs in Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Wisconsin, and for the National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives..