



July 2026

**Quality Improvement Program - New Jersey
(QIP-NJ) Announcements & Updates**

Dear QIP-NJ Program Participants,

The Department of Health (DOH) encourages hospitals and other interested parties to review this newsletter to help ensure your teams stay up-to-date on important news and announcements regarding QIP-NJ. As always, all newsletters will be posted to the QIP-NJ Documents & Resources webpage within approximately one week of distribution. If you have any questions, concerns, or to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com. Thank you!

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DOH Corner

DOH continues to appreciate the time and effort that participating hospitals are putting into QIP-NJ and looks forward to seeing continued quality improvement for both the maternal health and behavioral health populations. As always, should participating hospitals have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the QIP-NJ team via email at QIP-NJ@pcgus.com.

Reminder to Check SFTP Credentials

Authorized SFTP users should verify SFTP access/connectivity at least two weeks before submission/review deadlines. Please email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com with any requests for password resets.

MY5 Data Submission Guidance

The QIP-NJ program has extended the deadline for submitting MY5 Non-Claims-Based (NCB) data. All submissions must be received no later than **August 14, 2026, at 5:00 PM ET**.

Hospitals must submit all data via their SFTP and email QIP-NJ@pcgus.com to notify the QIP-NJ team that they have submitted their files and confirm receipt.

***Please ensure that all MY5 data submission files are saved in the following folder path: [Hospital Name] > [Hospital Name] Submissions > MY5**

This is essential for maintaining folder organization and ensuring official submissions and are reviewed for calculation. Only the files submitted in this folder will be evaluated.

As a reminder, below is the list of current documents to consult for reporting compliance which can be found on the [QIP-NJ website](#) (please note **v5.1 updates to the Databook and VSC**):

- Standard Reporting Template (SRT) v5
- SRT v5 for BH12 and M010
- SRT Guidance Document v5
- Measurement Specifications and Submissions Databook **v5.1**
- Value Set Compendium (VSC) **v5.1**

QIP-NJ Evaluation

The QIP-NJ Evaluation Team is excited to begin hospital-facing evaluation activities in the coming months. Over the course of this Summer and Fall, the program evaluation team will conduct key informant interviews with select hospital staff from the participating QIP-NJ hospitals. Additionally, during Summer 2026, a hospital survey, similar to the survey issued in 2022 and 2024, will be sent out to gather valuable feedback. Your participation will help DOH gain a better understanding of hospitals' perspectives on QIP-NJ.

MY5 Claims-based Patient Level Reports (PLRs) Release in Mid-August

The QIP-NJ Team estimates that MY5 Claims-based PLRs will be available by August 14, 2026. MY5 participating hospitals will be able to find details on their MY5 claims-based performance in their hospital-specific Inbound folder in the QIP-NJ SFTP. Each hospital will receive summary measure results and PLRs for all claims-based measures. Hospitals can use the PLRs to help inform their population health improvement programs and targeted quality initiatives, as well as any appeals.

The release of the PLRs will mark the opening of the claims-based appeals window with final appeals due August 28, 2026, at 5PM EST. To initiate the claims-based measure appeals process, hospitals must submit all necessary documentation using the DOH-provided templates via the QIP-NJ SFTP. Appeals submission guidance and forms will be posted to the QIP-NJ website in mid-August with the release of PLRs.

MY5 Data Submission Best Practices Webinar and Guidance

Thank you to the hospital teams and other individuals who attended the MY5 Data Submission Best Practices Webinar and Guidance session held on May 28th 2026. During the session, the QIP-NJ Team reviewed best practices, the estimated timeline for data submission, and FAQs in advance of MY5 reporting. The slides can be found [here](#).

MY6 Preprint Submission

DOH and the Department of Human Services have submitted preprint requests to CMS for an additional year of QIP-NJ and are engaging with the

agency. The QIP-NJ Team will keep hospitals apprised of the status of CMS' review.

Other State Initiatives and Programs

- The Center for Continuing Health Education is offering **Board Certification in Telemental Health (BC-TMH) provider training**. The training is a NBCC 9.0-hour continuing education self-paced curriculum-planned online course that integrates into your patient care and keeps participants up to date with competency and licensure board requirements. To learn more about this opportunity, please visit the [program webpage](#).
- On December 4 the **March of Dimes and CMQCC** held the first of a three-part series, "Understanding Preeclampsia Risk & Low-Dose Aspirin: A Global and US Perspective." December's webinar reviewed the global and US prevalence, outcomes, and disparities for preeclampsia and introduce our new co-authored resource, "[Low-Dose Aspirin for Preeclampsia Prevention: Implementation Guide for Clinical Teams](#)."
- The **Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Advocates (MoMMAs Voices) team has created a comprehensive resource hub**. This hub includes valuable information from healthcare systems, Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (PQCs), non-profits, and quality improvement initiatives to support maternal health efforts. Teams can find resources on national and local SUD support, as well as information on opioid, alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, and stimulant use. It also covers best practices for screening and reporting, along with patient education and advocacy. You can access the hub [here](#).
- The **CDC's Million Hearts® Hypertension in Pregnancy Action Forum (HPAF)** is a national collaborative for clinical, public health, and community-based partners to exchange best and promising practices, identify solutions to common obstacles, and share resources related to improving hypertension management for women during and after pregnancy. This program has ongoing forum sessions that can promote new knowledge and share best practices nationally. Additionally, the program [website](#) has some resources that QIP-NJ maternal health teams might find useful, including resources for treating hypertension in the prenatal period and some resources for postpartum blood pressure monitoring.

- The **Ancient Song Give Away** is a monthly event where caregivers can receive free diapers, wipes, and baby essentials. The next giveaway is on August 15, 2026, from 11 AM to 2 PM, at 50 Church St., Montclair, NJ 07402, on the 1st floor. These events recur every 3rd Saturday of the month.



- **Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO)** training is an evidence-based training used by birthing providers and interprofessional maternity care teams to handle obstetric emergencies. NJ DOH encourages teams to look into the components of the training. You can find more information on the training program [here](#).
- **Alma Program for Southern Jersey Hospitals: Nurture NJ** has announced the availability of the Alma Program, a free, evidence-based, peer-to-peer mentoring program designed to help make the parenting journey a little easier. The program connects expecting mothers and recently postpartum moms experiencing feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress with trained professionals that have faced similar challenges. Through weekly meetings, participants receive support and share skills that have the potential to make a big difference as they step into a new chapter in their lives.

The Alma program is currently offered in South Jersey but has plans to expand to Central and North Jersey later this year. To learn more about the Alma Program, to enroll, or to refer a mom, visit www.snjpc.org/alma.

- The **Nurture NJ Strategic Plan**, which aims to make NJ the safest and most equitable place in the national to deliver and raise a baby. Please check the [Nurture NJ website](#) for more information and to discover new ways to become engaged.
- The **New Jersey Maternal Health Innovation Authority (NJMIHIA)** is governed by a 15-member Board and an appointed President and Chief Executive Officer and support staff. The Board will adopt recommendations for action to reduce maternal mortality, morbidity, and disparities. The Board also coordinates with a Community Advisory Committee to support and inform its work. The 11-member Community Advisory Committee will represent diverse community groups with relevant experience as providers or recipients of maternal, infant, and child health services.
 - NJMIHIA's meetings are open to the public and the last meeting was held on July 22, 2026. Additional information, including meeting materials, will be published on the [NJMIHIA website](#), so please continue to check back regularly. For additional information about the NJMIHIA, please feel free to email the team at info@njmihia.gov.
- NJMIHIA has introduced a new **NJ FamilyCare Rubric Tool** to simplify the approval process for doula training organizations. The tool guides programs in submitting an Approval Packet outlining their curriculum and training requirements, which is reviewed against statewide standards for NJ FamilyCare approval. Once approved, trainees become eligible for NJ FamilyCare community doula enrollment, enabling them to serve families across New Jersey and receive Medicaid reimbursement for doula services. You can find more information [here](#).
- Funded by DOH, **NJ Quit Centers** provide residents of New Jersey with resources and support to stop or reduce their use of tobacco including e-cigarettes, disposables, pouches, and other related products. Quit Centers can and do play an integral role in helping

clinical facilities meet their goal of advancing statewide quality improvements for BH under QIP-NJ Measure BH08: Substance Use Screening and Intervention Composite. More information regarding Quit Centers, including contact information for the Inspira Quit Center and RWJ Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery (IFPR) Nicotine and Tobacco Recovery Program, can be found here: <https://www.tobaccofreenj.com/quit-smoking>.

- **DHS' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)**, which serves as the Single State Agency (SSA) for Substance Abuse and the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA), as designated by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), also oversees NJ's adult system of community-based BH services. Please [check DMHAS' website](#) for more information and discover new ways to become engaged.
- **DHS' Episode of Care (EOC) Pilot** is a three-year pilot to test a new alternative payment model for prenatal, labor, and postpartum services statewide. Performance Period 1 (15 months) of the EOC Pilot ran from April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Performance Period 2 (12 months) ran from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Performance Period 3 (12 months) ran from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Program Performance Period 4 (12 months) ran from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. For more information about the EOC Pilot, or questions, please send an email to the DHS team at mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov.

