

# November 2025 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!

- DOH Corner
- MY4 Non-Claims-Based Appeals Under Review
- MY5 Data Collection and Analysis LOI Submission Period
- Request for Updated Team Lead and Hospital Signatory Information
- Other State Initiatives and Programs

#### **DOH Corner**

We are now approximately eleven months into MY5 of QIP-NJ, which began in January and will run through the end of the year. DOH continues to appreciate all the time, effort, and resources that participating hospitals are putting into the program as QIP-NJ approaches the end of MY5.

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.

### MY4 Non-Claims-Based (NCB) Appeals Under Review

The Department is in the process of reviewing MY4 NCB appeals and expects to release final NCB results next month. DOH will notify QIP-NJ Program leads once those results have been posted to hospitals' SFTP folders.

## MY5 Data Collection and Analysis – Provider ID/NPI Submission Period

Whereas MY5 is currently contemplated to be the final year of QIP-NJ, hospitals will not be expected to submit a Letter of Intent this fall. However, to support the MY5 data calculation process, hospital Program Leads were emailed ProviderID/NPI confirmation letters on November 3, 2025. Responses from hospitals are due at **5:00 PM EST on December 19, 2025**.

## **Request for Updated Team Lead and Hospital Signatory Information**

As we continue through MY5 of the QIP-NJ program, it's important that we maintain accurate and up-to-date contact information for all key personnel. Specifically, we ask that you review the Program Lead and Hospital Signatory details provided in MY5 Data Collection and Analysis Period Letter of Intent (LOI) which will be forthcoming in November.

If there have been any changes to these contacts—or if changes occur at any point during the program year—please notify the Department as soon as possible. Keeping this information current ensures that all relevant communications, updates, and program materials are delivered to the appropriate individuals.

To submit updates, please email the revised contact information to <u>QIP-NJ@pcgus.com</u>

#### **Other State Initiatives and Programs**

- Join March of Dimes and CMQCC on Dec. 4 from noon-1 p.m. PST for the first of a three-part series, "Understanding Preeclampsia Risk & Low-Dose Aspirin: A Global and US Perspective." December's webinar will review 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." You can register here.
- 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 December 20, 2025, from 10 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, evidencebased, 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 <a href="https://www.snjpc.org/alma">www.snjpc.org/alma</a>.

- 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 <u>Nurture NJ website</u> 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 next meeting will be held on December 17, 2025 from 10am to 12pm ET. Additional information, including meeting materials, will be published on the <u>NJMIHIA website</u>, so please continue to check back regularly. For additional information about the NJMIHIA, please feel free to email the team at info@njmihia.gov.
- 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: <a href="https://www.tobaccofreenj.com/quit-smoking">https://www.tobaccofreenj.com/quit-smoking</a>.
- 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 <a href="check DMHAS">check DMHAS</a>' 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. More information regarding the EOC Pilot can be found on DHS' website at the link below. 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) will run from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. For more information about the EOC Pilot, please visit DHS' website at: Episode of Care Pilot (nj.gov). For questions, please send an email to the DHS team at mahs.maternityepisode@dhs.nj.gov. Copyright © 2025. All Rights Reserved.