



# NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE **QUALITY INSTITUTE**

A BI-WEEKLY LOOK AT THE BUSINESS & POLITICS OF HEALTH CARE IN NEW JERSEY



## **PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER**

### **We Need Better Data to Address Health Care Inequities**

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades come out next week. Those grades are based, in part, on information from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. Once again, we have a 100 percent participation rate on the Survey by New Jersey hospitals. Our state's hospitals show their commitment to quality, safety, and transparency every time they complete the Survey.

For 2021, the Leapfrog Hospital Survey includes a new section that will provide us with a greater understanding of existing inequities in the provision of health care. Inequitable care is low-quality care. Thus, we must identify it and together address it. Collecting data is the first step on the path forward. The questions asked and the research references provided in the Survey are a valuable guide to hospitals for the type of data they should collect, strategies for collection and verification, and ways to use the data.

Specifically, the survey asks: whether hospitals collect demographic data; how they collect and verify the data; if they have identified inequities; if and how they stratify safety measures based on demographic data; whether they use the stratified data to develop quality improvement projects designed to reduce inequities; and whether the data is shared with the hospital's board of directors or shared publicly on the hospital's website...



## TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

### Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Sarah Adelman serves as Acting Commissioner for the [New Jersey Department of Human Services](#).

**Interview Sneak Peek:** *The New Jersey State FY 2022 budget increased funding for maternity care through Medicaid. How will the state use these new funds to improve the quality of maternity care?*

The budget continues to support the First Lady's [Nurture NJ](#) work and in a whole-of-government approach, Governor Murphy's administration is committed to improving maternal and infant health and reducing racial inequities in care and outcomes. The budget will fund the expansion of Medicaid coverage from 60 days to 365 days postpartum. It also invests \$19 million to expand the supplemental prenatal program, which supports contraceptive and prenatal services for women of undocumented immigration status or women without access to health insurance. The budget also includes reimbursement for doula care. Complimenting on our work with the Quality Institute, the state no longer pays for non-medically indicated early elective deliveries. And we're now requiring OB-GYNs, midwives and other health care professionals to complete a perinatal risk assessment of their patients to identify their health and social needs and refer them to services. These requirements are to improve outcomes for moms and babies and to create a healthier New Jersey for everyone.

[Read Full Interview](#)

## Know a Health Care Worker Who Needs Mental Health Support?

NJHopeline 1-855-654-6735

NJMentalHealthCares Helpline  
1-866-202-HELP

ACCESS American Sign Language  
and Videophone Helpline  
973-870-0677



HEAL NJ Healthcare Workers  
COVID Hope & Healing Helpline  
1-833-416-8773

RISE NJ First Responders COVID  
Hope & Healing Helpline  
1-833-237-4325

Assistance and Referrals to  
Addiction Treatment  
1-844-ReachNJ

## QI CONFERENCE

**PRIMARY CARE AS A COMMON  
GOOD – THE PRESCRIPTION  
FOR A HEALTHIER AND MORE  
EQUITABLE HEALTH CARE  
SYSTEM**

Wednesday, December 15th,  
from 2:45 p.m. - 5 p.m.



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE  
QUALITY INSTITUTE



Join our Winter Conference focused on making high-quality primary care a common good to create a healthier and more equitable health care system. You'll hear from our keynote, Rutgers University Professor Shawna Hudson, one of the authors of the The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report, "[Implementing High Quality Primary Care.](#)"

You'll also hear from a panel of our members who are working now to transform how primary care is delivered.

**Register Now**

## OUR SPEAKERS



**KEYNOTE: Professor Shawna Hudson**  
*Rutgers University, co-author National Academy of Sciences Engineering Medicine's report, "Implementing High Quality Primary Care"*



**Mary F. Campagnolo, MD, MBA,**  
*Med. Dir. Value Based Programs & Payer Contracts, Virtua Medical Group, Dir. Board, American Academy of Family Physicians & AAFP Foundation*



**Marie-Elizabeth Ramas, MD, FAAFP,**  
*Regional Medical Director, Aledade Inc.*



**Elisabeth Spector, MD, MPH, FAAFP,**  
*Medical Director, Somerset County Partnership Health Center*



**Kumar Dharmarajan, MD, MBA,**  
*Chief Clinician & Governing Body Chair, Clover Health Partners, Associate Chief Medical Officer*



**Carolyn Hoitela, MLS,**  
*Vice President, Practice Resources, Conventus Inter-Insurance Exchange*



## NEW MEMBER

### North Jersey Health Collaborative

The [North Jersey Health Collaborative](#) is an organization with a diverse set of partners in health care, public health, social services and other organizations. Its core function is a shared process of community needs assessment and health improvement planning, and the development of collaborative plans to address them.



**North Jersey Health Collaborative**  
**health matters**



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at [vtesser@njhcqi.org](mailto:vtesser@njhcqi.org).

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at [www.njhcqi.org](http://www.njhcqi.org).

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