



NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

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



PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER **Work Sessions to Implement Maternity Action Plan Begin**

Maternal Health Awareness Day was earlier this week, providing us with an excellent time to update you on the work we are doing with others to make New Jersey the safest and most equitable place in the nation to give birth and raise a baby.

As many of you know, the Quality Institute released the [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#) in July of last year. The MAP provides specific steps to implement and accelerate the goals of [Nurture NJ](#) and address New Jersey's maternal health crisis and racial inequities.

Our next step is hosting four working sessions that focus on each section of the MAP. The [work sessions](#) will identify work already in motion on each area, increase awareness of that work as well as the opportunities and barriers for advancement. Invited organizations will share the areas they are interested in working on, their needs, and what resources or expertise they can contribute. These work sessions are part of the on-the-ground action taking place to improve birth equity and make giving birth safer in New Jersey...



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TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Emre Kayaalp, MD, PhD, FACOG, Chair of OB/GYN at [Overlook Medical Center](#). Dr. Kayaalp is a member of the advisory board of the Maternal Infant Health Hub. The Quality Institute, in partnership with the Burke Foundation, created the Hub to develop ways to make midwives a bigger part of the birth experience in New Jersey.

Interview Sneak Peek: *How would changing the way we pay physicians improve quality in maternal care?*

When we talk about payment, we're talking about the behavior you are incentivizing or disincentivizing. So let's describe what I see as a problem in the private sector, not just in New Jersey, but everywhere. Ob-gyns are paid with these global fees; you're really penalized if you are not there for the actual delivery. That puts a heavy incentive on the private physician to be present for all of their deliveries. At first glance, that may not sound like a bad thing. But it could be a problem. If you are a solo practitioner — we still have lots of them in New Jersey — or a small group practice — then you're pretty much on call around the clock. Fatigue can set in.

I think the payment model for private physicians clashes with a laborist model of care. The laborist model is when hospitals employ physicians to provide continuous coverage of labor and delivery units. That's a model I do believe in because if you look at things from a global health perspective, there's pretty good evidence worldwide that having a dedicated laborist team is better for patient safety and for consistency of care. We have major disparities in New Jersey. One way to improve quality is to be more consistent in how we approach everyone...

[Read Full Interview](#)



NEW JERSEY
HEALTH CARE
**QUALITY
INSTITUTE**

THE LEAPFROG GROUP
Giant Leaps for Patient Safety





Help Us Celebrate the Quality Teams within Every New Jersey Hospital

Join us for a **virtual breakfast and learning session:**
February 1, 2023 from 7:30 am - 8:30 am.

- Hear about 2023 changes to the Leapfrog Hospital Survey from [Melissa Danforth, the Leapfrog Group](#).
- Learn from a **panel of New Jersey hospital leaders** on how to make Patient Safety & Quality an organization's top priority.
- Panel moderated by our [Director of Quality, Adelisa Perez-Hudgins, MSN, RN-BC](#).

This session is for:

- **Health care providers and leaders** working to improve safety within your organization;
- **Employers, unions, carriers, and purchasers** working to increase transparency on safety measures; and
- **Regulators and policymakers.**

Panelists:

- Mark Arcaro, MD, Vice President of Clinical Performance, Capital Health
- Reginald Blaber, MD, Executive Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer, Virtua Health
- Juan Toro, BSN, RN, CCS, Manager, Performance Improvement, Saint Clare's Health

[Register for the Virtual Quality Breakfast](#)

Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Work Sessions

For organizations and individuals interested in advancing the recommendations laid out in the [Maternity Action Plan \(MAP\)](#), sign up for one or more of our **virtual work sessions**.

Register for a session topic you are interested in by clicking a title below:

- Friday, January 27th: [Collect and Use Data to Improve Equity and Quality](#)
- Thursday, February 2nd: [Improve Community-Based Social Supports](#)
- Monday, February 13th: [Build the Workforce Needed to Achieve Birth Equity and Quality](#)
- Monday, February 27th: [Reform Payment Systems to Drive High Quality Holistic Maternal Infant Health Care](#)



Pre-readings will be distributed to participants. Each session will feature examples of where MAP recommendations and concepts are being successfully implemented and how we can collectively work together.



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at vtesser@njhcqi.org.

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at www.njhcqi.org.

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