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What's Included In This Edition:

Schwimmer Script - Guest author Annelise Slater, MPH, CHES, Quality Institute Program Officer

Register for Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0: Information Session on 5/6

Take Five Interview - Stephen Cha, MD, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Human Services

Register for Maternity Action Plan (MAP) Virtual Work Session on 4/21

Quality Institute President and CEO Named to 2026 NJBIZ Health Care Power List

Schwimmer Script

Annelise Slater, MPH, CHES
Program Officer

NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE
QUALITY INSTITUTE

The graphic features a circular portrait of Annelise Slater, a woman with dark curly hair, smiling. To the right of the portrait, the words 'Schwimmer Script' are written in a large, bold, dark blue font. Below the portrait, her name and title are listed. To the right of her name is a small icon of a pen writing a squiggle. At the bottom right is the Quality Institute logo.

Leapfrog Streamlines ASC Survey and Launches Public Reporting Program

Register for Our May 6th Webinar to Learn More

Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) play an increasingly critical role in our health care system, delivering more than half of all surgeries— often at a lower cost than hospital-based care. In New Jersey, a new policy by the [State Health Benefits Program](#) will drive even more people to ASCs. As of July 1, many SHBP members will face higher out-of-pocket costs for certain procedures if they chose to have them in a hospital rather than an ASC. Patients, along with other purchasers and policymakers, are faced with an important question: how can they identify the safest place to receive care?

Unfortunately, there has been a longstanding lack of publicly available information on the quality and safety data of care delivered in ASCs. While the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) collects patient safety data through its Ambulatory Surgery Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program, this data is complex and not easily accessible or actionable for the average consumer.

Without clear, accessible data, patients cannot make fully informed decisions about where to receive care, and purchasers and payors have fewer tools to steer patients toward high-value providers.

The Leapfrog Group is now addressing this gap. Beginning July 1, 2026, Leapfrog will launch a redesigned ASC Survey and public reporting program that makes critical patient safety data easily available on their [Public Reporting](#) website. This is a giant leap forward in aligning outpatient surgical care with the broader movement toward transparency and accountability in health care...

[Read Full Story](#)

LEAPFROG ASC SURVEY 2.0: INFORMATION SESSION

 WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

 12 TO 1 P.M.

 VIRTUAL EVENT, ZOOM



Join us on [Wednesday, May 6, from 12 to 1 p.m.](#), for an information session on The Leapfrog Group's [Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Survey 2.0](#).

This webinar will provide an overview of the updated survey and key changes from previous versions, including a review of ASC data that will be publicly reported nationwide. Ideal for ASC administrators, quality leaders, and staff involved in quality improvement.

[Register Now](#)

TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Stephen Cha, MD
*Commissioner, New Jersey Department of
Human Services*



Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Dr. Stephen Cha is Commissioner of the [New Jersey Department of Human Services](#).

Interview Sneak Peek: *As Commissioner, you must be preparing New Jersey for the federal cuts and requirements of H.R.1 (the “One Big Beautiful Bill”). What progress has been made so far — and what do you envision for the work ahead?*

This may feel theoretical for some, but we need to face the reality of the impact in New Jersey. As many as 350,000 people may lose Medicaid coverage — billions of dollars lost, beginning as soon as October. There are also billions more in cuts to hospitals and health systems, ramping up through 2030. People will still need health care, so that’s billions shifted from the federal government to New Jersey taxpayers, and I’m not seeing the level of urgency we need. I want to make people understand that all this is approaching. This is real.

Our focus for the next few months in Medicaid is eligibility and enrollment. The number of people cut from Medicaid will depend on how well our systems work — and whether people can get through new bureaucratic red tape to access coverage they’re eligible for...

[Read Full Interview](#)

MATERNITY ACTION PLAN

SHIFTING POWER: CENTERING COMMUNITY VOICES IN MATERNAL HEALTH REFORM

TUESDAY, 4/21 FROM 12-2 PM

VIRTUAL EVENT, ZOOM



#MAP4NJ

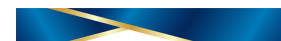
Join us on **Tuesday, April 21, from 12 to 2 p.m.** for a Maternity Action Plan (MAP) virtual work session, “Shifting Power: Centering Community Voices in Maternal Health Reform.”

Quality Institute Program Officer [Christine Ivery](#), MPH, CHES, DrPH(c), and Vice President of Quality [Adelisa Perez-Hudgins](#), MSN, RN-BC, will discuss how community partnerships with hospitals and health systems can enhance lived experience, strengthen accountability, and improve maternal health outcomes in New Jersey. The presentation will feature a panel discussion with members of Perinatal Community Advisory Boards (PCABs).

[Register Now](#)

Quality Institute President and CEO Named to 2026 NJBIZ Health Care Power List

The Quality Institute is proud to announce that our



President and CEO, Linda Schwimmer, has been named to has been named to the [2026 Health Care Power List](#) by [NJBIZ](#). This recognition highlights her longstanding leadership and commitment to advancing health care quality, safety, and affordability across New Jersey and beyond.

We are honored to celebrate this achievement alongside many Quality Institute members who were also recognized this year.



[Access the Full 2026 Health Care Power List](#)



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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