

2023 Update:

SMFM Special Statement: Who's who in patient safety and quality for maternal healthcare in the United States

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Overview

In keeping with the SMFM policy of periodically reviewing documents for updates, the team accessed the websites of each organization listed in the SMFM Special Statement of 2020. The website review was conducted in June, 2023. For each of the Tables in the original article, we have entered any substantial updates in the new right-hand columns of the updated Tables that follow. We believe that the updated Tables are sufficient and so we have not endeavored to modify any of the main-body text from the original article.

Our intent is to post this update on the SMFM webpage where the document is stored:

<https://www.smfm.org/publications/325-smfm-special-statement-whos-who-in-patient-safety-and-quality-for-maternal-healthcare-in-the-united-states>.

In addition, we will ask Am J Obstet Gynecol to post the update using the CrossMark “Check for updates” feature associated with the article at:

[https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(20\)30388-4/fulltext](https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(20)30388-4/fulltext) and

<https://www.ajog.org/action/showPdf?pii=S0002-9378%2820%2930388-4>

Table 1. National or international organizations with broad scope

Organization Name	Acronym	Website	2023 Update
Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality	AHRQ	http://ahrq.gov/	<p>New programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Decision Support • Comparative Health System Performance (CHSP) Initiative • Evidence-based Practice Centers Program • EvidenceNOW • Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) • Patient Safety Network (AHRQ PSNet) • Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) • TeamSTEPPS <p>Several programs listed in 2020 document are no longer active</p>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	CDC	http://cdc.gov/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web page for patient-oriented materials: https://www.cdc.gov/patientsafety/index.html. • Web page for National Healthcare Safety Network modules focused on process measures and events associated with medical devices, surgical procedures, antimicrobial agents used during the provision of health care, and multidrug-resistant organisms: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/psc/. • CDC supports 39 states plus Guam for the Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality (ERASE MM) Program: https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/erase-mm/index.html.
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	CMS	http://cms.gov/	<p>New for 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural metrics on health equity and social determinants of health. • “Birthing Friendly” designation for hospitals meeting certain quality standards. • As of March 26, CMS has terminated its contract with NQF for maintenance of quality metrics and contracted instead with Battelle, an independent not-for-profit organization. <p>New for 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality metric on severe OB complications • Electronic quality metric on cesarean rate.
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Core Quality Measures Collaborative	CQMC	https://www.qualityforum.org/cqmc/	Core measure sets listed at: https://www.qualityforum.org/CQMC_Core_Sets.aspx Participation by CMS and NQF within CQMC are undergoing transition because CMS changed contractors for quality metrics in early spring 2023 (see CMS above).
Food and Drug Administration	FDA	http://www.fda.gov/	No major changes
Health Resources & Services Administration	HRSA	https://www.hrsa.gov/	No major changes
Healthy People 2030		http://healthypeople.gov/	Healthy People 2030 has been finalized and includes 23 objectives related to pregnancy, childbirth, family planning, sexually transmitted diseases, and vaccination.
Institute for Healthcare Improvement	IHI	http://ihi.org/	No major changes
Institute of Medicine	IOM	see NAM below	No major changes. Organization is no longer called Institute of Medicine, but older IOM publications are still cited with this name.
National Academy of Medicine	NAM	http://nam.edu/	New initiatives on Climate Change, Human Health & Equity, Culture of Health, Healthy Longevity, Opioid Epidemic, Reproductive Health, Equity, & Society, and COVID-19.
National Institute for Health & Care Excellence	NICE	http://nice.org.uk/	NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries are no longer available to users outside the United Kingdom, Crown Dependencies, or British Overseas Territories. NICE Guidance documents, quality metrics, and many other materials are still accessible by users in USA.
National Patient Safety Foundation	NPSF	see IHI above	Merged into Insitute for Healthcer Improvement (IHI, above) and no longer active as NPSF.
National Quality Forum	NQF	https://www.qualityforum.org/	As of March 26, 2023 CMS has terminated its contract with NQF for maintenance of quality metrics.
National Quality Measures Clearinghouse	NQMC	qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov	Closed as of 2018, website no longer available
World Health Organization	WHO	http://who.int/	No major changes

All website addresses in this table have been updated and were accessed on June 28, 2023.

Table 2. National or international organizations with focus on maternal/child health

Organization Name	Acronym	Website	2023 Update
Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health	AIM	https://saferbirth.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New goal statement: “To support best practices that make birth safer, improve maternal health outcomes and save lives” New patient safety bundles include cardiac conditions in obstetric care, perinatal mental health conditions, and sepsis in obstetrical care. No longer a function of CPSWHC (below) which has been dissolved.
Council for Patient Safety in Women's Healthcare	CPSWHC	http://safehealthcareforeverywoman.org/	Organization dissolved in 2021. Website points users to AIM (above). Three patient safety bundles on prevention of retained sponges, enhance recovery after surgery, and prevention of surgical site infection were not transferred to AIM and remain available on CPSWHC site.
Fetal Medicine Foundation	FMF	https://fetalmedicine.org	No major changes
Institute for Perinatal Quality Improvement	IPQI	https://perinatalqi.org/	No major changes
Maternal Safety Foundation	MSF	maternalsafetyfoundation.org http://cesareanrates.org/	Website for parent organization has expired. Website on cesarean rates is still available but most recent data is for 2019.
National Center for Fatality Review & Prevention	NCFRP	https://ncfrp.org/	Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) provides this overview statement: “Community based, action-oriented process aimed at improving services, systems, and resources for women, infants and families.” Currently, there are 160 fetal and infant mortality and review programs in the United States.
National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives	NNPQC	https://nichq.org/project/national-network-perinatal-quality-collaboratives	47 states now have active PQC's (previously 43). Current focus areas for maternal care include reduction of preterm birth, cesarean delivery, severe pregnancy complications, and racial/ethnic and geographic disparities.
National Partnership for Maternal Safety	NPMS	See text	No major changes
National Perinatal Information Center	NPIC	npic.org	No major changes
Perinatal Quality Foundation	PQF	https://perinatalquality.org/	No major changes

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Table 3. Women's health professional organizations with committees on patient safety or quality

Organization Name	Acronym	Website	2023 Update
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	ACOG	https://www.acog.org/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New mission statement: "To support our members to improve the lives of all people seeking obstetric and gynecologic care, their families, and communities." • New vision statement "An equitable world in which exceptional and respectful obstetric and gynecologic care is accessible to all." • New focus on Levels of Maternal Care initiative, in partnership with SMFM. • Information about Birth Registry is no longer available online.
American College of Nurse-Midwives	ACNM	www.midwife.org/	No major changes
American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine	AIUM	https://www.aium.org/	No major changes
Association of Women's Health & Neonatal Nurses	AWHONN	https://www.awhonn.org/	New resources related to Reproductive Rights & Abortion Access, Perinatal Bereavement. New course on Critical Care Obstetrics.
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine	SMFM	https://www.smfm.org/	New strategic plan focuses on three goal areas: advocacy and partnership; member engagement and support; and knowledge, education, and research.
Society of Obstetrical Anesthesia and Perinatology	SOAP	https://www.soap.org/	New SOAP Center of Excellence (COE) designation recognizes institutions that demonstrate excellence in obstetric anesthesia care based on rigorous benchmarks.
State-specific Maternal Mortality Review Committees and Perinatal Quality Collaboratives		See text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of mid-2023, Maternal Mortality Review Committees were present in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and New York City • Perinatal Quality Committees were present in 47 states. • The SMFM scorecard was updated in 2020-2021: https://www.smfm.org/scorecard/2020 but there are no plans to update in future.

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Table 4. Organizations offering accreditation, certification, or special distinction

Organization Name	Acronym	Website	2023 Update
American Board of Obstetricians & Gynecologists	ABOG	https://www.abog.org/	No major changes
AIUM: Ultrasound Practice Accreditation	AIUM	https://www.aium.org/accreditation	No major changes
Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative	BFHI	https://www.babyfriendlyusa.org/	No major changes
Blue Distinction		https://www.bcbs.com/about-us/capabilities-initiatives/blue-distinction	As of October 2020, stricter selection criteria for NTSV cesarean rate ($\leq 24.7\%$) and episiotomy rate ($\leq 14\%$).
Commission for Accreditation of Birth Centers	CABC	https://birthcenteraccreditation.org	No major changes
FMF: Certificates of Competence	FMF	https://fetalmedicine.org/fmf-certification-2	New website address
IHI: Certified Professional in Patient Safety	IHI	https://www.ihl.org/education/cpps-certified-professional-in-patient-safety/	No major changes
Inteleos		https://www.inteleos.org/	(Organization added to Table in 2023.) Global non-profit “community” offering certifications for medical professionals. PQF transferred its fetal monitoring certification (FMC) program to Inteleos in 2023.
Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations	JCAHO	see TJC below	No major changes. The organization is no longer using this name.
National Association for Healthcare Quality	NAHQ	https://nahq.org/individuals/cphq-certification/	No major changes
National Certification Corporation	NCC	https://www.nccwebsite.org/	No major changes
National Committee for Quality Assurance	NCQA	https://nahq.org/individuals/cphq-certification/	Additional HEDIS metrics in prenatal care: immunization status and prenatal depression screening and follow-up.
PQF: Credentials for Cervical Length and Fetal Monitoring	PQF	https://clear.perinatalquality.org/default.aspx fmc.perinatalquality.org	Fetal Monitoring Certification (FMC) transferred to Inteleos in 2023, see above.
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Society of Obstetrical Anesthesia and Perinatology	SOAP	https://www.soap.org/	New SOAP Center of Excellence (COE) designation recognizes institutions that demonstrate excellence in obstetric anesthesia care based on rigorous benchmarks.
The Joint Commission	TJC	https://www.jointcommission.org/	Two metrics retired in 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC-03 (antenatal corticosteroids) • PC-04 (neonatal septicemia or bacteremia). New metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC-06 (newborn complications) • PC-07 (severe maternal complications) • New leadership requirements on reducing health care disparities effective 2023.

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Table 5. Organizations that rate, rank, or report quality measures*

Organization Name	Website	2023 Update
Healthgrades	https://www.healthgrades.com/	No major changes
Care Compare (Medicare) Hospital Compare	https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare	New name, new functionality on website. New risk adjustments and other enhancements to Star rating system.
Leapfrog Group	https://www.leapfroggroup.org/	No major changes
US News & World Report	https://health.usnews.com/	No major changes
Yelp	https://www.yelp.com/	No major changes

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