

Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative Partnership Initiatives

Objective 1.4: Maintain at least two quality cross-sector initiatives focused on improving maternal, perinatal, and infant health in partnership with the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative (KPQC) by 2030.

AIM Patient Safety Bundle Implementation

During FFY27, the KPQC will continue implementation of the Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy (SHTN) AIM patient safety bundle, with emphasis on sustaining improvements in early recognition, timely treatment, and appropriate follow-up care across participating facilities. Ongoing activities will include providing direct technical assistance to sites, facilitating monthly learning forums, supporting data collection and reporting, and promoting multidisciplinary engagement with obstetric, emergency department, and community-based partners.

KPQC anticipates completing the current SHTN bundle cycle in early 2027. In preparation for the next quality improvement initiative, KDHE and KPQC are conducting a structured selection process informed by statewide needs assessment findings, facility readiness, and stakeholder input collected through surveys and partner engagement. This process includes assessment of priorities such as perinatal mental health conditions, substance use disorder, obstetric hemorrhage, and other areas identified through data and partner feedback.

Upon selection, KPQC will launch the next AIM patient safety bundle, ensuring continuity of cross-sector engagement and alignment with maternal mortality review findings and broader state priorities. Implementation will follow the established KPQC model, including development of change packages, defined measures, and coordinated support for participating sites.

Through these efforts, KDHE and KPQC will sustain at least 2 active, coordinated quality improvement initiatives over time, strengthening system-wide capacity for data-driven improvement and collaboration across clinical, public health, and community settings to improve maternal and infant health outcomes in Kansas.

Obstetric Simulations

Due to Kansas's rural nature, several organizations are currently working to address challenges in accessing maternal health care. The State Maternal Health Innovation program will work collaboratively with the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative to convene several state-level partners who are concurrently providing obstetrical simulations to Kansas hospitals, and to support additional organizations in filling geographical gaps to ensure that all hospitals receive high-quality obstetrical drills and simulations. MHI is contracting with the Partnership for Perinatal Excellence, LLC in 2026 to travel to sites to provide simulations consistent with the partners' curriculum, including information on Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy (2025 – 2026 AIM bundle). Additionally, State Maternal Health Innovation funding will support the distribution of Obstetrical Emergency Management QuickBooks, developed by partners at the University of Kansas School of Nursing and the project director for Kansas RMOMS.

QuickBooks includes algorithms for obstetric emergencies for staff to use, particularly in low-volume but high-risk events or in hospitals that do not typically see labor and delivery situations. All KPQC-enrolled facilities will receive one to two QuickBooks licenses.