

# Quality Of Care Network Updates - February 2020

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Quality, Equity, Dignity

A Network for Improving Quality of Care  
for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

**Updates –February 2020**



## Engaging the private sector in delivering quality care for maternal, newborn and child health

The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health is looking at the contribution and impact of private providers (ie, non-government providers, for-profit businesses) in



providers, for-profit businesses) in implementing quality care for maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) in order to determine how to create, nurture and encourage the full engagement of the private sector in this work.



The Quality of Care Network is conducting a systematic review to examine the private sector's role in implementing quality care standards, developing and identifying best practices for delivering quality MNCH care, and strengthening health systems for delivering quality.

Members of the Quality of Care Network recognise that private providers are an important source of healthcare and have a role to play in improving quality of care. In fact, among the 11 Network countries, the private sector addresses an increasing volume of maternal, newborn and child health care needs. Yet, little is known about how to effectively engage and sustain private sector involvement in delivering quality care in low- income and middle-income countries. The systematic review seeks to address this knowledge gap.

[Read more](#) about the systematic review

*Photo: Dr Djiba Diakité works in a private clinic in Siguiri, Guinea. August 2016. ©UNICEF/UN036516/Holt*

## WEBINAR - WASH in Kenyan hospitals: drivers and challenges to avert antimicrobial resistance and improve quality of care

Thursday 19 March, 2020 at 1:00 pm EAT, 6:00 am EDT, 10:00 am GMT, 11:00 am CET, 3:30 pm IST - duration: 1 hour



Click [here](#) to join the webinar.

The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health is organizing a webinar to present key findings and lessons from a study assessing water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) in 14 public hospitals in Kenya and how it impacts patient safety and quality of care.

The study '[Evaluating the foundations that help avert antimicrobial resistance: Performance of essential water sanitation and hygiene functions in hospitals and requirements for action in Kenya](#)', conducted by the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme and partners<sup>[1]</sup>, looks into the key drivers that improve WASH in facilities, such as infrastructure, availability of resources, leadership and innovations. The study zooms on the ward level to show how differences in accessing WASH can occur within a facility.

### Presenters:

- Dr. Michuki Maina, Paediatrician and Public Health Consultant
- Dr. Pauline Kamau, Senior Pharmacist at the Nyeri County referral hospital, and county hospital Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead

The presentations will be followed by a Q & A session.

[Read more and access resources](#)

<sup>[1]</sup> The Amsterdam University Medical Centers, University of Amsterdam, the Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford and the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development

Saxena and the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development.

Photo: A Senior Nurse Officer assists Linnet Daniel to breastfeed her newborn baby in a postnatal ward at Mukuru Health Centre, Kenya, in September 2016. © UNICEF/UN0199756/Noorani

## Share your quality of care experience!



Have you seen or been part of an inspiring quality improvement initiative, tested an innovative approach, or do you know a quality of care champion? This is your chance to share your experience with a broad audience of health workers, managers and decision-makers. Give us a tip and we will turn it into a story and share it with the broader global health community.

The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health is calling for proposals for stories on quality of care for maternal, newborn and child health. Simply answer the three questions in [this questionnaire](#) and we will write a web story, record a podcast episode or plan a webinar around the expertise and know-how that you are sharing.

These stories will be shared on the Quality of Care Network's website and within its Learning Network.

The **deadline for submitting your story idea is extended to Monday, 16 March 2020**, at midnight GMT

## Suggest a story

### CLOSING SOON!

**Every Newborn is updating its coverage targets for 2020-2025 and wants to hear from you!**

**Take part in the consultation by Monday, 2nd March, 2020.**





Every Newborn has launched a global consultation to set coverage targets for 2020-2025. In order to end preventable newborn deaths and stillbirths, and progress towards Universal Health Coverage and the SDGs, coverage targets for key aspects of newborn health must be met. The Every Newborn Management Team, chaired by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, have reviewed the evidence and data to propose newborn health coverage targets to achieve by 2025.

You are invited to voice your preferred Every Newborn 2025 Coverage Targets by completing the online consultation [here](#) by Monday, 2nd March, 2020. A [Question Guide](#) is provided with background information to support participation in the consultation.

There are now more than 90 countries working to implement the recommendations of the [Every Newborn Action Plan \(ENAP\)](#), a roadmap for action to end preventable newborn mortality and preventable stillbirth, launched in 2014. The 1st phase included coverage targets and milestones only until 2020. This global consultation seeks to provide a clear vision that helps countries to accelerate progress to reach coverage targets (2020-2025) and measure collective progress to improve newborn health. The collectively agreed coverage targets also intend to create accountability among national and global level policymakers to end preventable deaths and improve newborn health.

If you experience any difficulty in taking part in the consultation, please contact Olive Cocoman, Coordinator, Every Newborn Partnership at [cocomano@who.int](mailto:cocomano@who.int)

*Photo: Animata Diallo, and her husband Abdoullé Konate, with their newborn baby in the PMI health center of Odienné, in the Northeast of Côte d'Ivoire, in February 2020. © UNICEF/UNI303193// Frank Dejongh*

### Partnering for quality improvement in India: Learning from LaQshya



A Partner Forum on Quality Improvement Towards Achieving LaQshya (National Labour Room Quality improvement Initiative) took place in December 2019, in New Delhi, to discuss how to expand and sustain quality improvement for maternal, newborn and child health across India.

The Forum was organized by the [Nationwide Quality of Care Network \(NQOCN\)](#) in collaboration with LaQshya Programme Management Unit, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW), and with the support of the World Health Organization's South-East Asia Office and India country office.

Three years after the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched [LaQshya](#) to reduce preventable maternal and newborn mortality, morbidity and stillbirths associated with the care around delivery in facilities and ensure respectful maternity care, the first forum of this kind brought together State Governments, institutional partners, NGOs, development

partners, private sector partners and funding partners to share lessons on quality improvement challenges and ideas to sustain the progress accomplished so far. The Forum was opened by Dr. Ajay Khera, Commissioner, MCH, and Dr Dinesh Baswal, Joint Commissioner for maternal health, MOHFW India.

Sharing experiences at all levels of the health system was a key aspect of the Forum, with leaders from the states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra presenting the work that they have done at state level to deliver high quality care maternal and newborn health services. Individual facilities from across the country also had the opportunity to share their experience of implementing quality improvement.

### Read more about the Forum

Photo: Midwives check up on a newly delivered child at the Chharch Maternity health sub-centre in the Chharch district of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, in September 2011. © UNICEF/UNI117754/Halle'n.

The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Quality of Care Network) works to ensure that every pregnant woman and newborn receives good quality care throughout pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period, with the ambitious goal to halve maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths in health facilities within five years in the participating countries.

The Quality of Care Network is led by countries that are already taking leadership to improve quality of care in health services: Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Uganda. More countries are expected to join the Network. It is backed by the World Health Organization, UNICEF and UNFPA, and supported by a growing partnership of development organisations, NGOs, professional associations and universities.

It is underpinned by the values of quality, equity and dignity and contributes to achieving the targets of the *Every Woman Every Child Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health*.

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Top photo: Women attending regular antenatal check-up during Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, Guwahati, Assam, India, in August 2017. © UNICEF/UN0117946/Biju Boro



#### Contact:

Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

[www.qualityofcarenetwork.org](http://www.qualityofcarenetwork.org)

Benedicte Walter, World Health Organization Headquarters consultant

walterb@who.int

Skype: benedicte57

Top photo: Photo: Pratima provides skin to skin contact to her newborn baby at a transformed labour room in Community Health Center in Kachhwan, in Uttar Pradesh, India, in September 2017. ©UNICEF/Vishwanathan

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