

# **The Role for Medicaid in Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery**

## Improving Outcomes and Reducing Disparities

**March 31, 2022**

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Doris Lotz and Kate Nilles, Mathematica

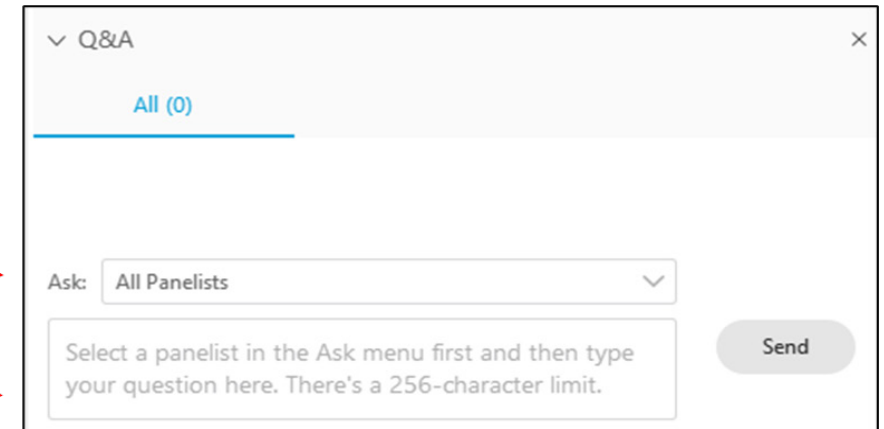
Kristen Zycherman, CMS

Mary Applegate, Ohio Department of Medicaid

Elliot Main, California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative

# How to Submit a Question

- **Use the Q&A function to submit questions or comments.**
  - To submit a question or comment, click the Q&A window and select “All Panelists” in the “Ask” menu
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Q&A

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Q & A

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Ask: Host

# Agenda

Topic	Speaker(s)
Welcome	Doris Lotz, Mathematica
Overview of the Maternal and Infant Health Initiative and Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery (LRCD) Learning Collaborative	Kristen Zycherman, CMS
Why Focus on LRCD?	Doris Lotz, Mathematica
Improving Maternal Health Using Population Health Strategies	Mary Applegate, Ohio Department of Medicaid
California/CMQCC's Initiative to Support Vaginal Births and Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Deliveries	Elliott Main, California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative, Professor OB/Gyn Stanford University
Questions	Doris Lotz, Mathematica
Announcements and Next Steps	Kate Nilles, Mathematica

# Objectives

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- **Provide an overview of CMS's Maternal and Infant Health Initiative**
- **Describe the Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery (LRCD) Learning Collaborative**
- **Discuss the importance of reducing LRCDs for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries to improve maternal and infant health outcomes**
- **Review the variation and disparities in LRCD in Medicaid and CHIP**
- **Understand state Medicaid and CHIP program levers to reduce LRCD rates**

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**Overview**  
**Maternal and Infant Health Initiative**  
**and**  
**Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery**  
**Learning Collaborative**

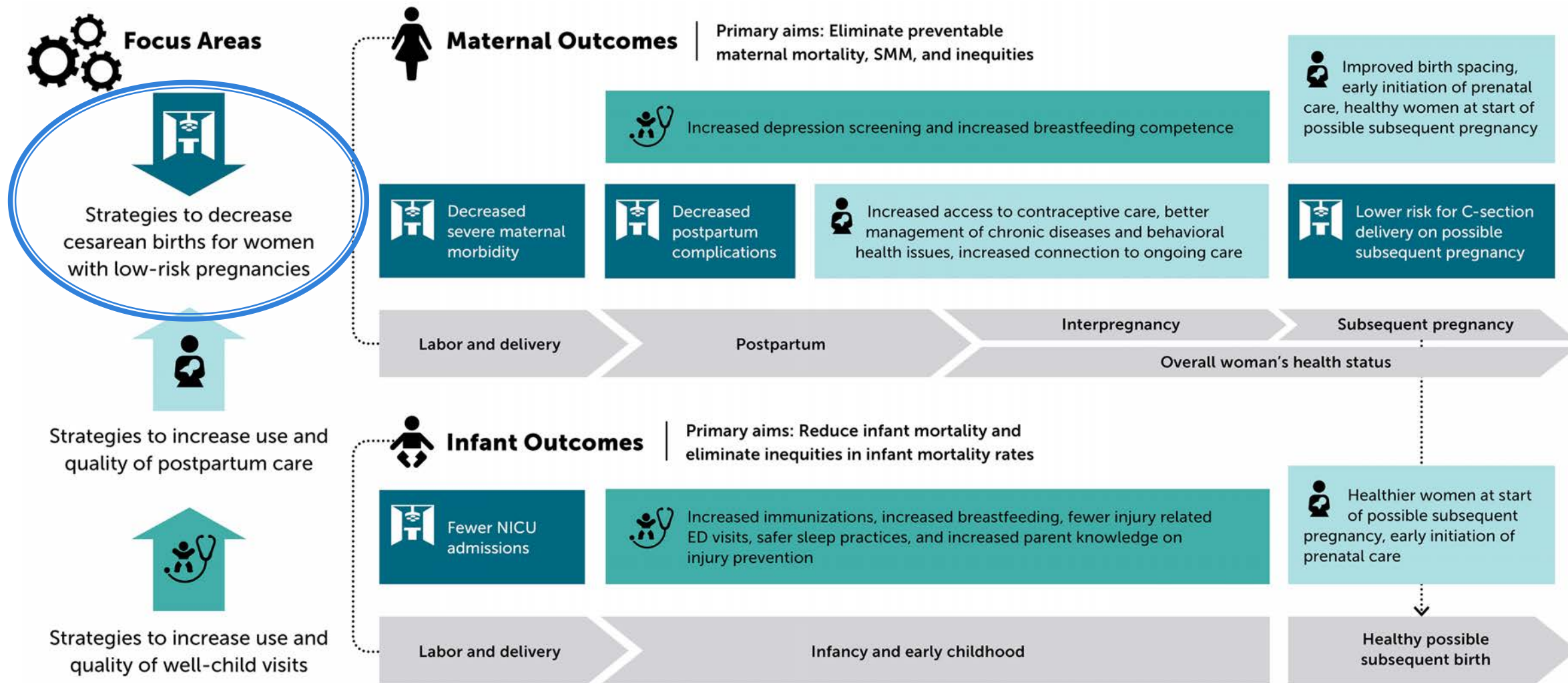
Kristen Zycherman, CMS

# Maternal and Infant Health Initiative

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- **Maternal and Infant Health Initiative (MIHI) launched to improve access to and quality of care for pregnant and postpartum persons and their infants.**
- **The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) convened an MIH expert workgroup in 2019-2020 to provide updated recommendations about where Medicaid and CHIP can influence change in maternal and infant health.**
- **Three MIHI focus areas**
  - **Increase the use and quality of postpartum care visits**
  - **Increase the use and quality of infant well-child visits**
  - **Reduce the rate of low-risk cesarean delivery (LRCD)**

# Focus Areas to Improve Maternal and Infant Health Quality



C-section = cesarean section; ED = emergency department; NICU = neonatal intensive care unit; SMM = severe maternal morbidity

# Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery

## Learning Collaborative Webinar Series

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- **Webinar 1:** The Role of Medicaid in Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery: Improving Outcomes and Reducing Disparities
- **Webinar 2:** State Medicaid and CHIP Agencies and Obstetrical Partners: Working Together to Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Deliveries
- **Webinar 3:** Using Data to Plan and Assess Quality Improvement Strategies to Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery in Medicaid and CHIP
- **Informational Webinar:** Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group Overview and Expression of Interest Process



# Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

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- Action-oriented affinity group that will support state Medicaid and CHIP programs and their partners in identifying, testing, and implementing evidence-based change ideas for reducing the number of LRCDs and improving maternal health care.
- Opportunity for states to expand their knowledge of policies, programs, and practices to reduce LRCD rates and advance their knowledge of and skills in quality improvement and address inequities
- More information is available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health-care-quality/index.html>

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# Why Focus on Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery?

Doris Lotz, Mathematica

# Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery (LRCD)

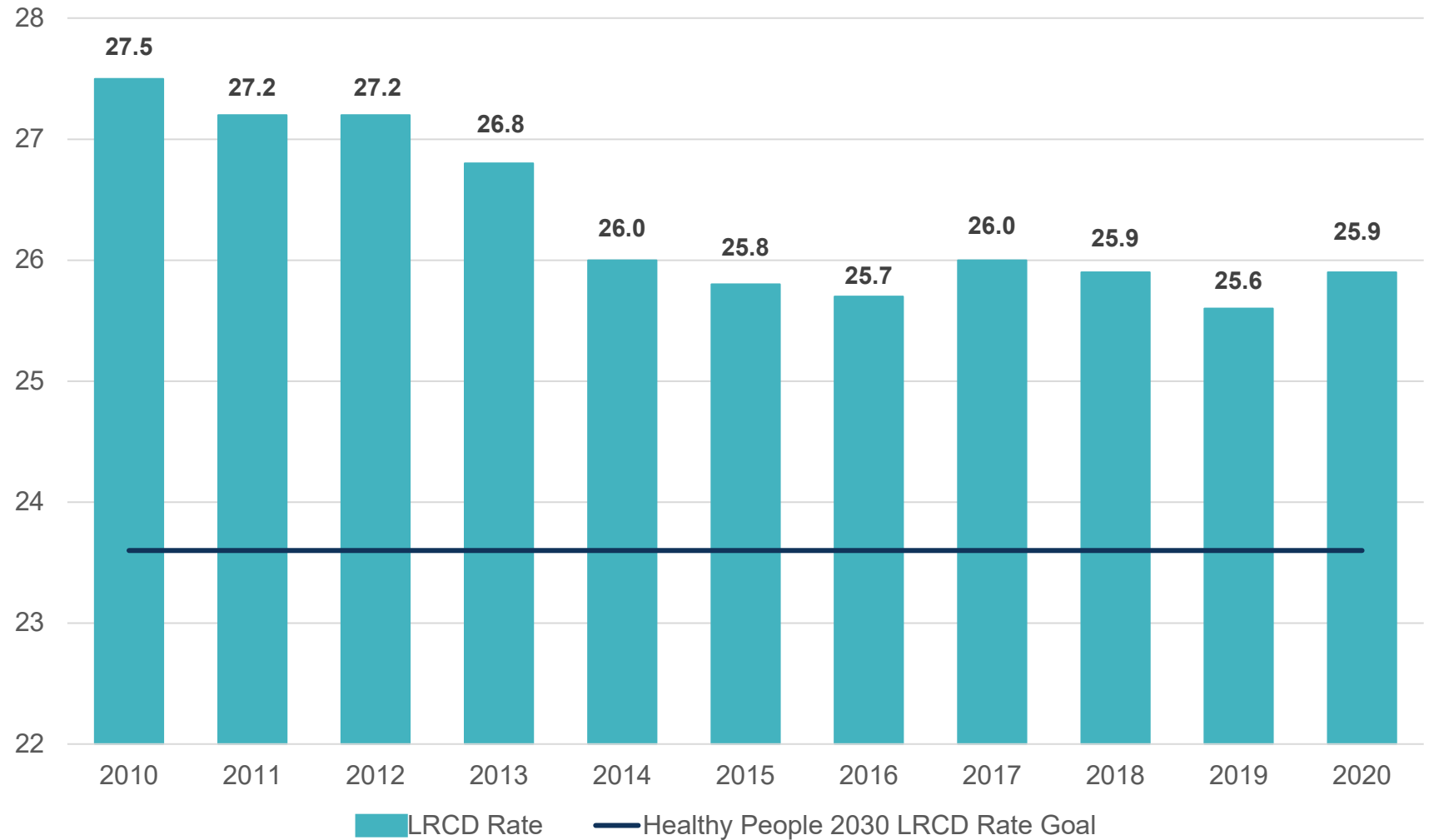
- Cesarean delivery poses greater risk of maternal morbidity and mortality for low-risk pregnancies.
  - Low-risk cesarean delivery is defined as **N**ulliparous (first birth), **T**erm (37 or more weeks), **S**ingleton (one fetus), and **V**ertex/cephalic (head-first) births delivered by cesarean.
- Healthy People 2030 goal for LRCD rate is 23.6%. The 2019 rate for LRCD in the United States was 25.6%.<sup>1</sup>
- LRCD rate disparities between Black and White birthing persons, 30.6% and 24.7%, respectively.<sup>2</sup>
- Medicaid covers 42.0% of all births in the United States.
  - CMS and states have an opportunity to reduce LRCD births in Medicaid and CHIP and improve maternal and infant health outcomes.

1. Healthy People 2030, accessed at

<https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/pregnancy-and-childbirth/reduce-cesarean-births-among-low-risk-women-no-prior-births-mich-06>

2. Osterman MJK, Hamilton BE, Martin JA, Driscoll AK, Valenzuela CP. Births: Final data for 2020. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 70 no 17. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2022, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr70/nvsr70-17.pdf>

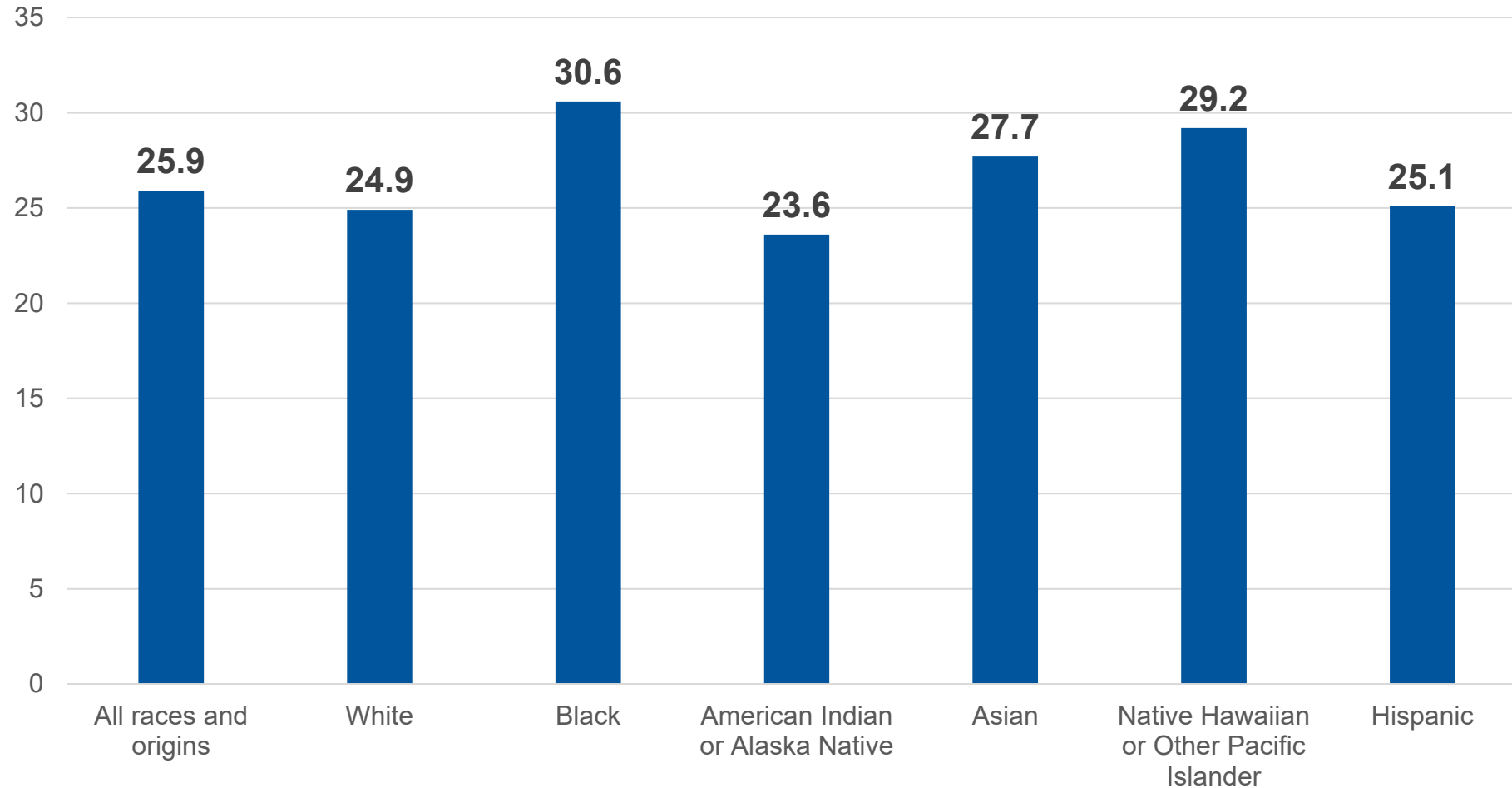
# Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Rates, U.S. 2010-2020



Source: Osterman, M.J.K., Hamilton, B.E., Martin, J.A., et al. "Births: Final Data for 2020." *National Vital Statistics Report*, vol. 70, no. 17, 2022, pp. 2-49  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr70/nvsr70-02-508.pdf>

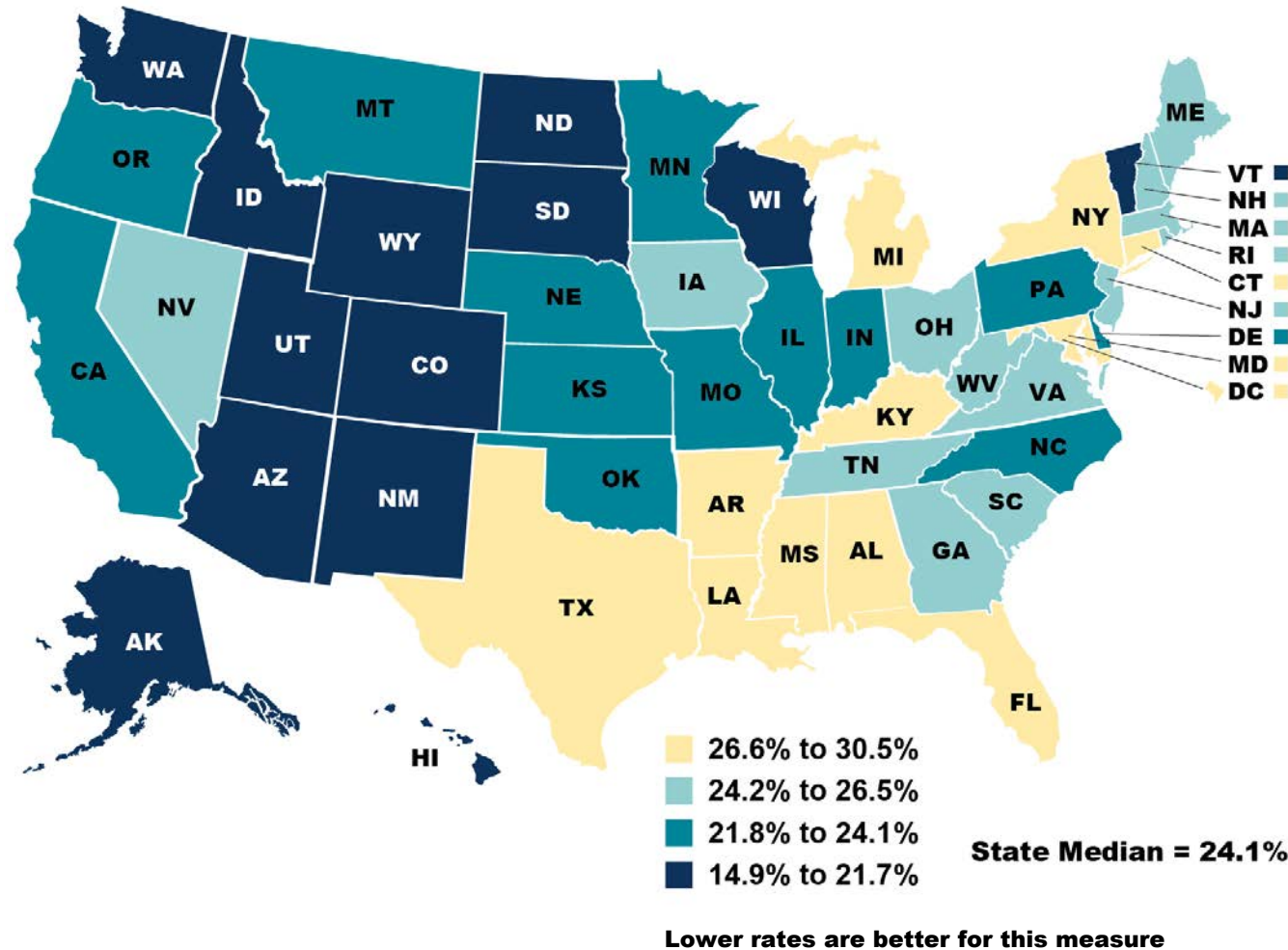


# Percentage of Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery by Race, U.S. 2020



Source: Osterman, M.J.K., Hamilton, B.E., Martin, J.A., et al. "Births: Final Data for 2020." *National Vital Statistics Report*, vol. 70, no. 17, 2022, pp. 2-49.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr70/nvsr70-17.pdf>

# Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Rate per 100 Deliveries, by State: Births Paid by Medicaid, 2018



**Notes:**

The low-risk cesarean delivery rate is calculated for singleton, term, cephalic deliveries to women having a first birth. Using this definition, 32% of all births in 2018 were low-risk. There is not a separate option for CHIP on the U.S. standard birth certificate. "Medicaid" may include CHIP beneficiaries. Births with delivery method unknown (<1% of births) are excluded.

**Source:**

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). 2018 Natality Public Use Data on CDC WONDER online database.

**Available at:**

<https://wonder.cdc.gov/>



# Improving Maternal Health Using Population Health Strategies

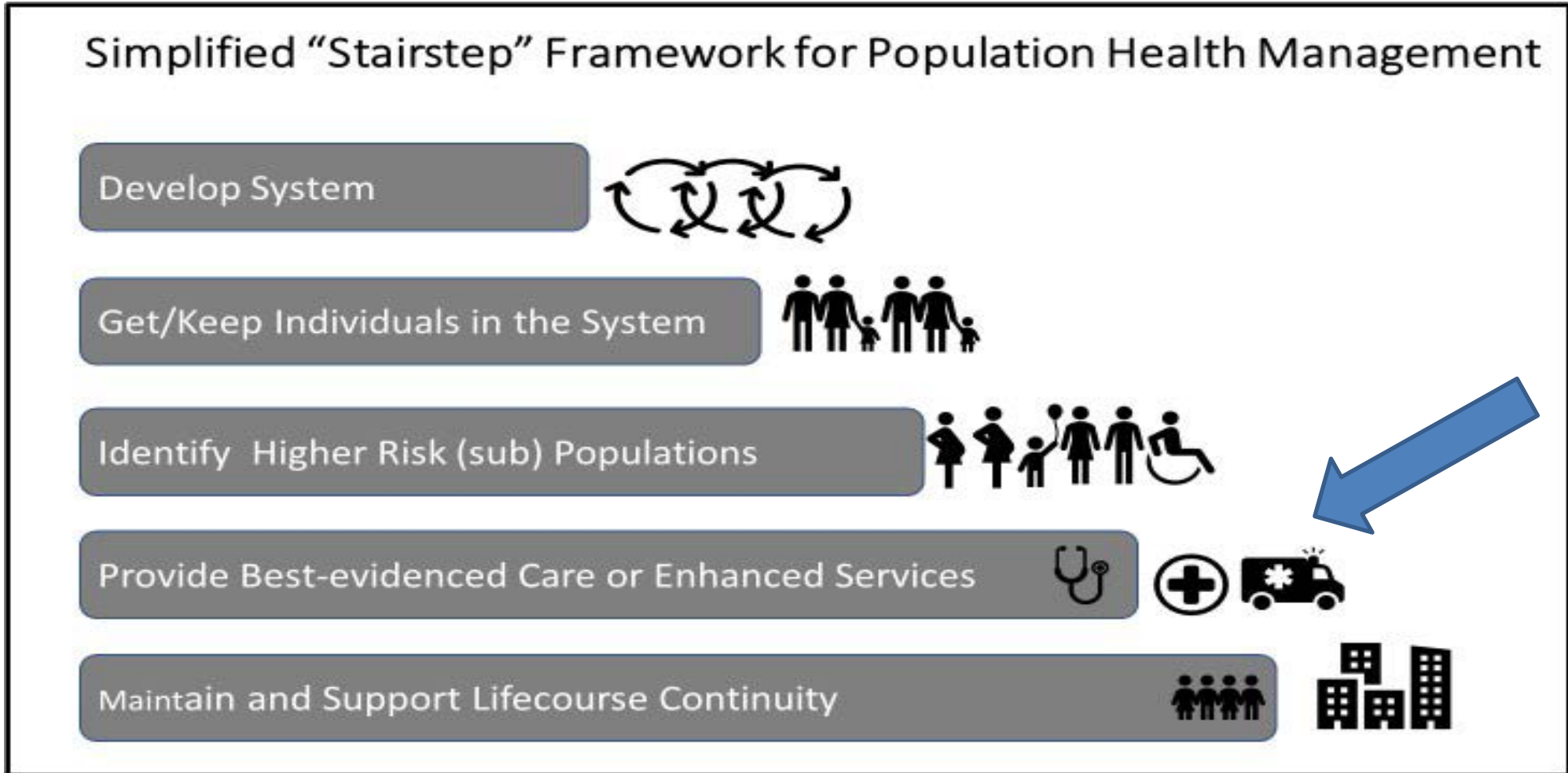
Mary Applegate, MD, FAAP, FACP

Medical Director

Ohio Department of Medicaid

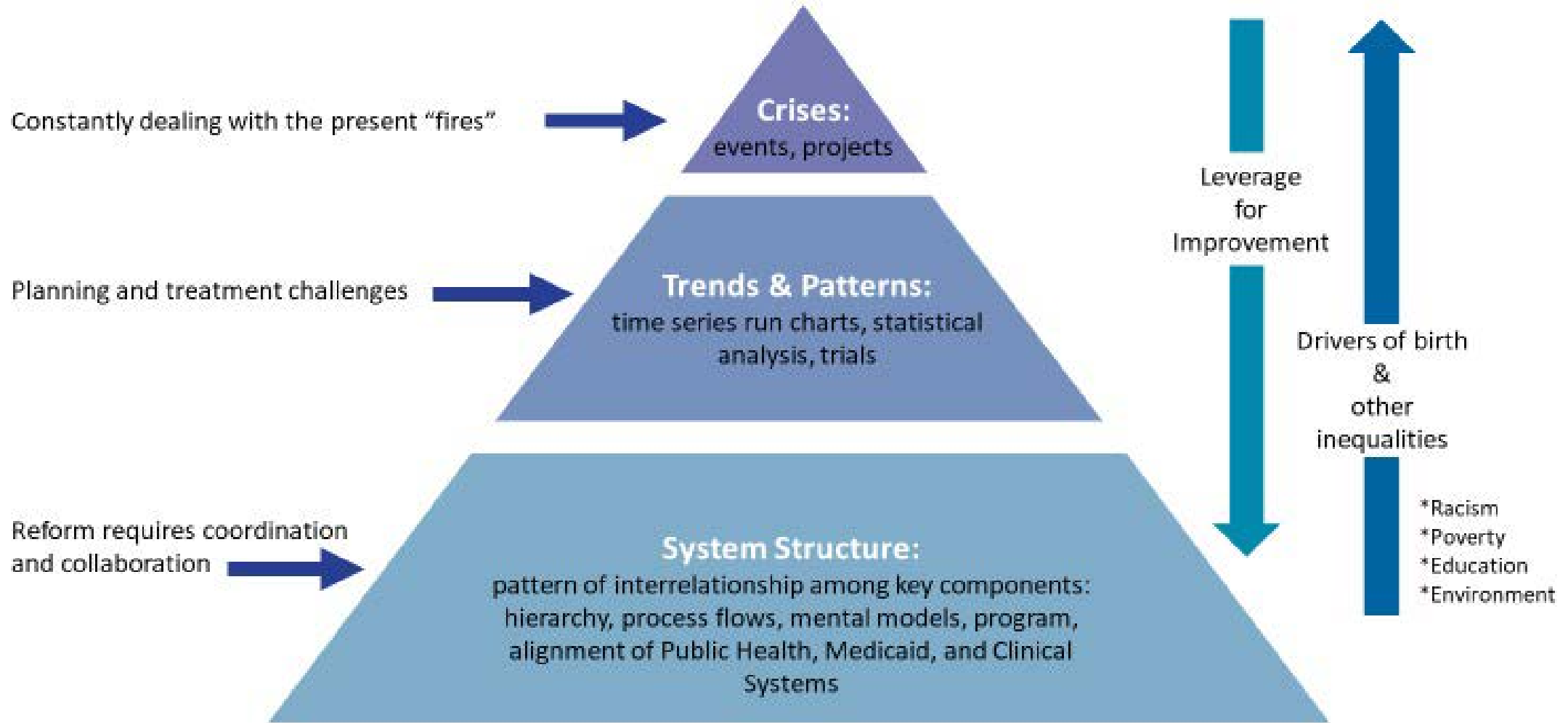
March 31, 2022

# The Next Generation of Managed Care: Beyond Payment



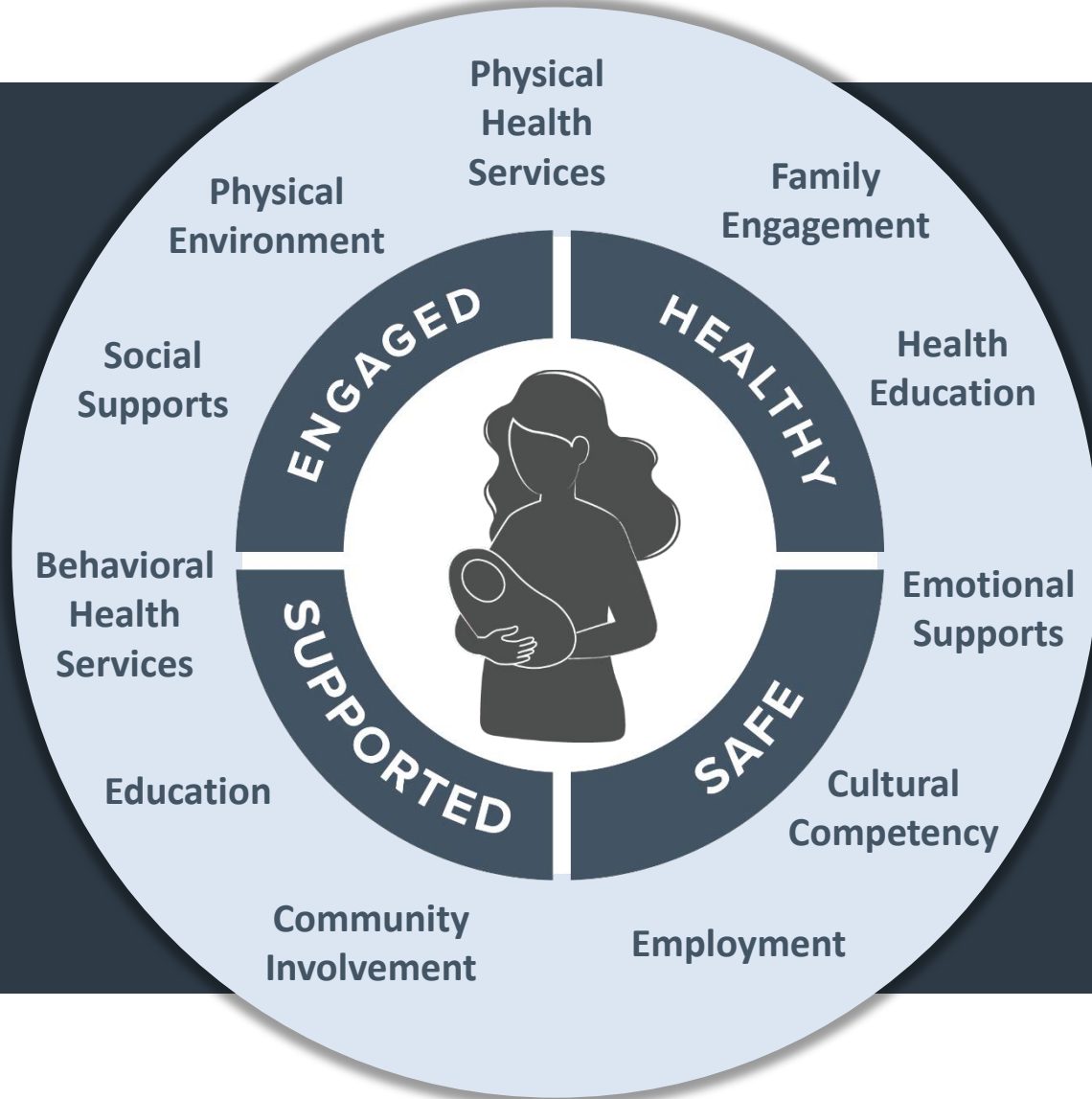


### Why is Improving Health Outcomes SO Difficult?



**CHANGE:** Organizations need structures, processes, & cultures that support desired outcomes

# Ohio's Maternal and Infant Support Program (MISP)



## Coordinating Policy, Process and Practice

*Integrating evidence-based and evidence-informed services within the healthcare system in conjunction with Governor DeWine's Task Force*

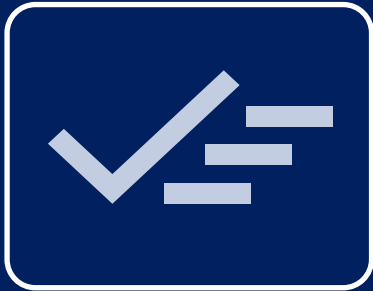
# Key Infant Mortality Community Learnings



In communities with Medicaid-funded CBOs, women have expressed the following key barriers to improved health outcomes:

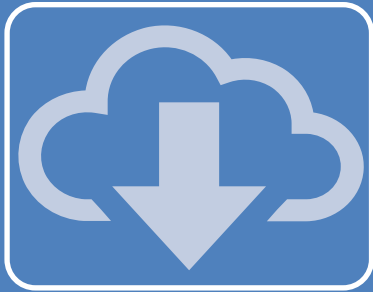
- ✓ Lack of Trust of the Health Care System
- ✓ Lack of Provider Empathy
- ✓ Lack of Effective Communication from Providers
- ✓ Lack of Social Supports
- ✓ Lack of Community Resources
- ✓ Lack of Medicaid Coverage of Alternative Providers and Services

# Ohio's Maternal and Infant Support Program (MISP)



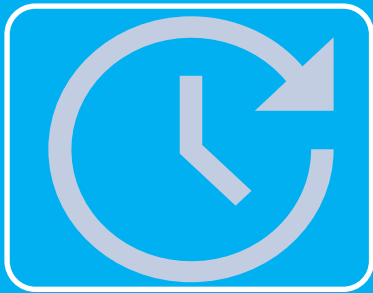
## Complete

- Pregnancy Risk Assessment Form/Report of Pregnancy
- Group Pregnancy Education and Group Prenatal Care
- Nurse Home Visiting
- Lactation Consulting and Breastfeeding



## In process

- 12 months postpartum eligibility
- **Comprehensive Maternal Care**
- Renewal of Ohio Equity Institute Infant Mortality Grants



## This biennium

- Lactation consultants
- Doulas
- Mom and baby dyad
- Welcome Home visits

Comprehensive Maternal Care (CMC) is designed for customized, high-quality, continuous and comprehensive **equitable** care

- ✓ Improved maternal and infant outcomes
- ✓ Improved provider cultural competency
- ✓ Improved patient experience
- ✓ Improved cross-system collaboration

- Give women and their families the clinical and community supports they need to improve outcomes, while helping them build a longitudinal trusting relationship within the health care system
- Deliver person-centered, customizable interventions to women and babies by creating a framework for providers and community partners to work together

# Patient Journey

← Continuous Eligibility →

## Patient Identification

- "No Wrong Door"
- Notification of Pregnancy or PRAF
- OBs, Hospitals, FQHCs, Emergency Department, PCPs, etc.

## Risk Tiering and Attribution

- Completed by Ohio Department of Medicaid
- Algorithm defined by state based on claims, vital stats, PRAF data, etc.
- Determine risk tiering for each woman
- Attribute to provider based on algorithm defined by the state

## Planning and Engagement

- Informed Consent
- PRAF completed, if applicable
- Provider identifies MISP options based on patient risk assessment and provides choice to woman
- Linkage to selected partnering entities
- Can be performed at any prenatal appointment

## Team-Based Care

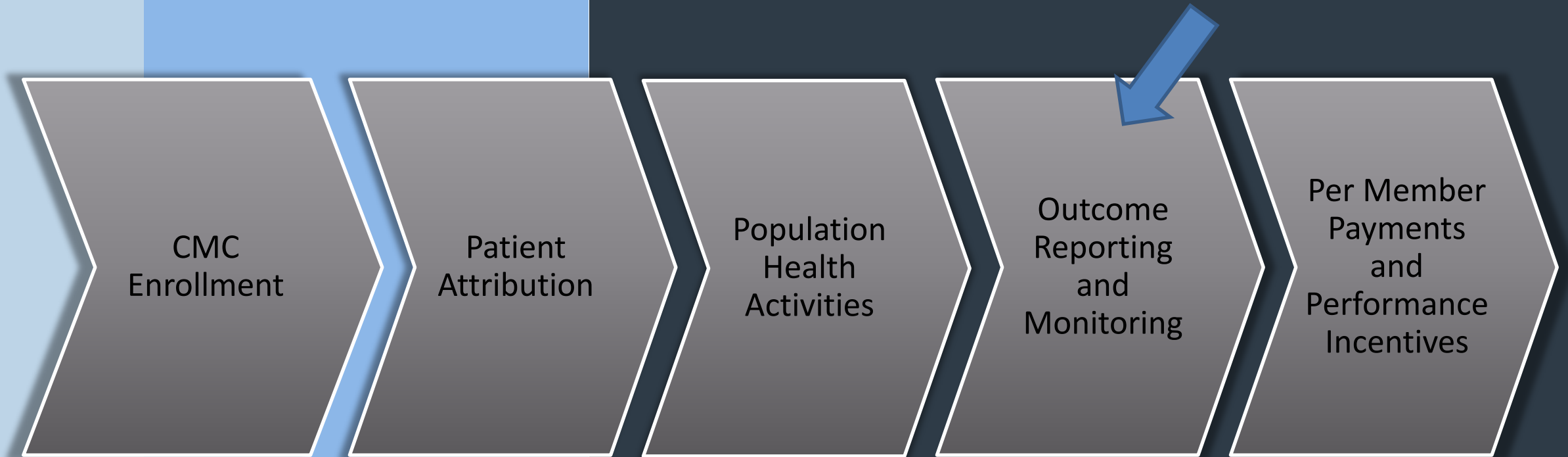
- Provider coordinates ongoing health care and community supports
- Uses a family-centered approach to deliver customized interventions to the patient and her family
- Routine, planned multidirectional communication with the team, including the patient, OB, PCP, and pediatrician

← Routine Source of Primary Care →



Postpartum Care

# Components of CMC Model



## Proposed Comprehensive Maternity Care Measures

- Postpartum Care
- HIV Screening
- Hepatitis B Screening
- Tdap Vaccination
- Tobacco Cessation
- Primary Care Visits for Mother
- Prenatal Visits by Nine Weeks Gestation
- Breastfeeding
- Preterm Birth
- Percentage of Low Birthweight Births
- **NTSV: Low Risk Cesarean Delivery Rate**
- Dental Visit
- Infant Well Care Visit
- Flu Vaccination
- Maternal Depression Screening
- WIC Enrollment
- Disparities in all of the above



# NTSV Cesarean Birth Rate

*The percentage of nulliparous, full-term (37-42 weeks), singleton, vertex-presenting deliveries of live births that were cesarean births*

- **Anchor Date:** Date of Delivery
- **Payment Status:** Information only for year one
- **Denominator:** Members who were attributed to a CMC provider for at least six months during their pregnancy (need not be continuous), whose pregnancy resulted in a live birth (birth records), and whose pregnancy and delivery meet the following additional criteria:
  - are nulliparous (birth records, using the fields PLBL and PLBD)
  - delivery is between 37 and 42 weeks
  - singleton births (birth records, using the field PLUR)
  - vertex presentation – exclude cases with a non-vertex presentation diagnosis (**Non-Vertex Presentation**)
- **Numerator:** Number of women with a Cesarean section (value set **Cesarean Section**) or with delivery method ‘primary cesarean section’ according to birth records (using the field DelMethodCD).
- **Data Sources:** Medicaid administrative data linked to Vital Statistics Birth records.
- **Measurement Period:** Rolling 12-month measurement period updated on a quarterly basis, based on the latest accurate data available. The date of delivery must occur in the measurement period for inclusion in this measure.
- **Measure Steward:** CMC-specific measure
- **References:** <https://manual.jointcommission.org/releases/TJC2020A1/MIF0167.html> (PC-02)

# C-section Rates in Perinatal Episodes

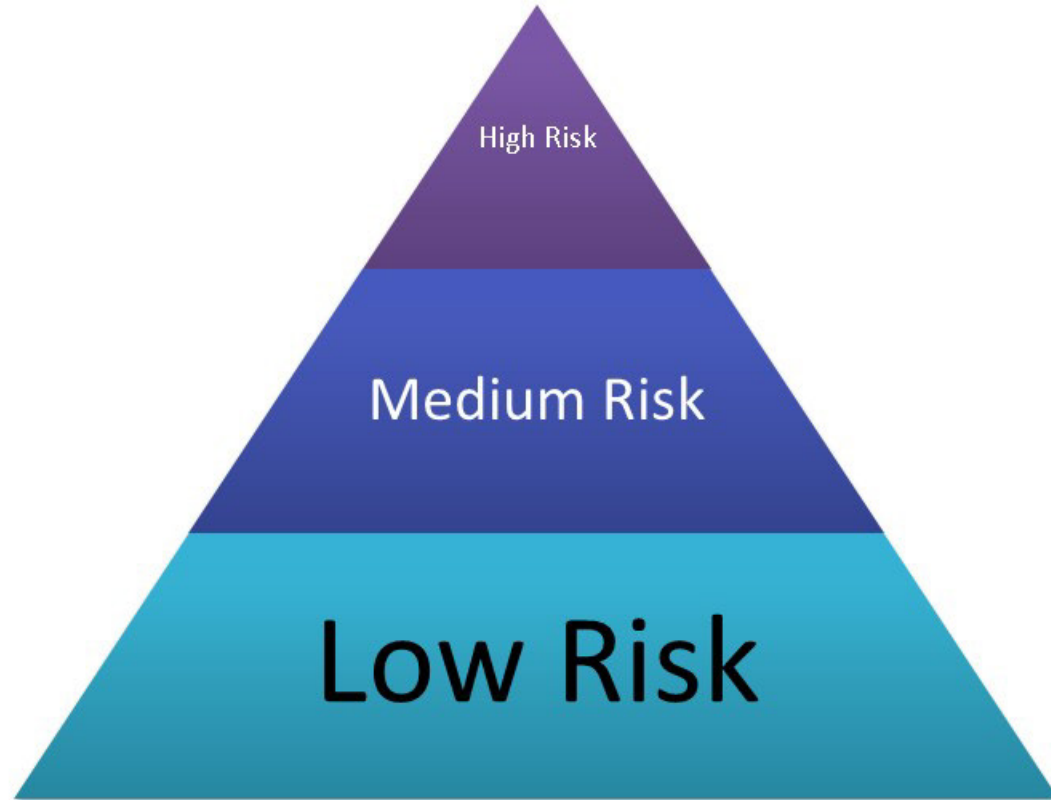
- ~61-70k episodes per calendar year, 2017-2020
- Average c-section rate across all risk groups ~31.5-32.5%

Percent of Total Births

~1%

~8%

~91%



C-Section Percent of Births

~60-63%

~42-46%

~30-31%

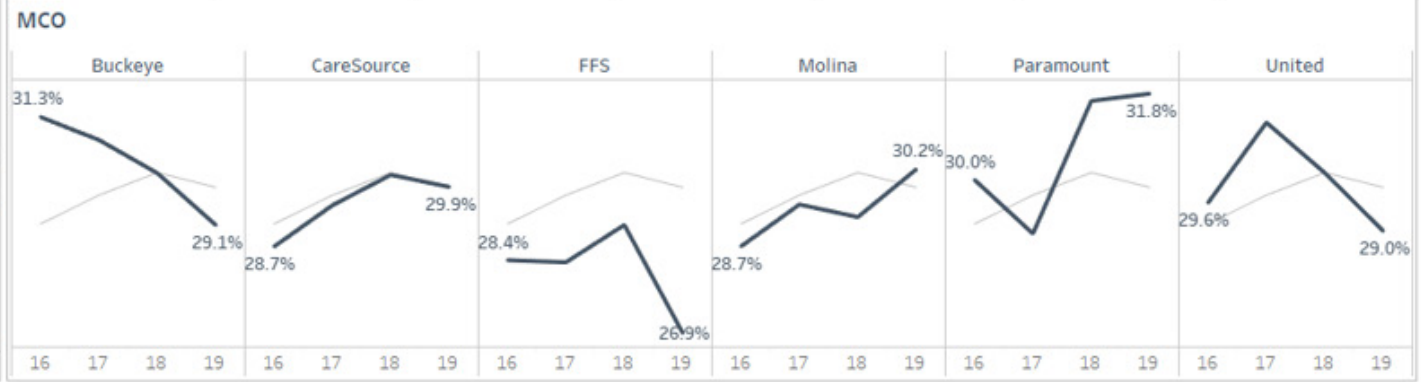
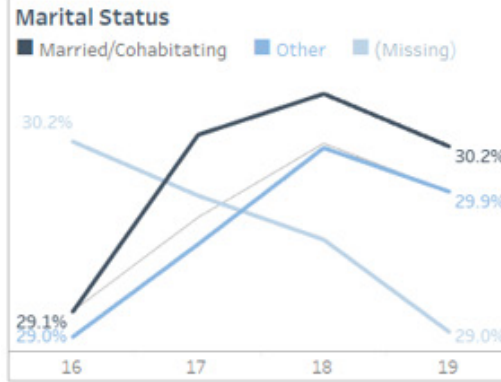
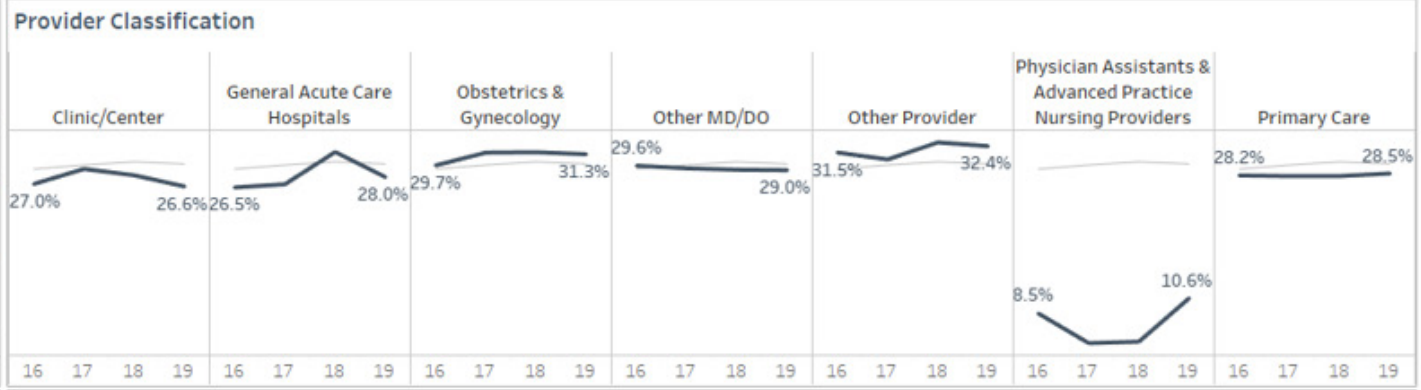
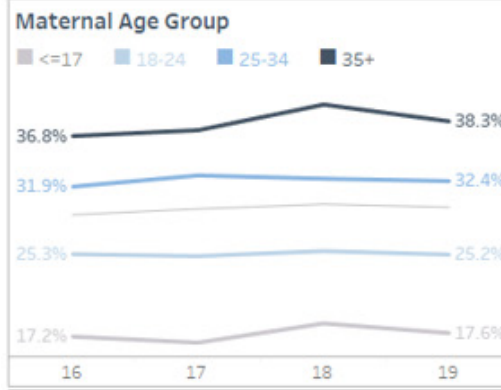
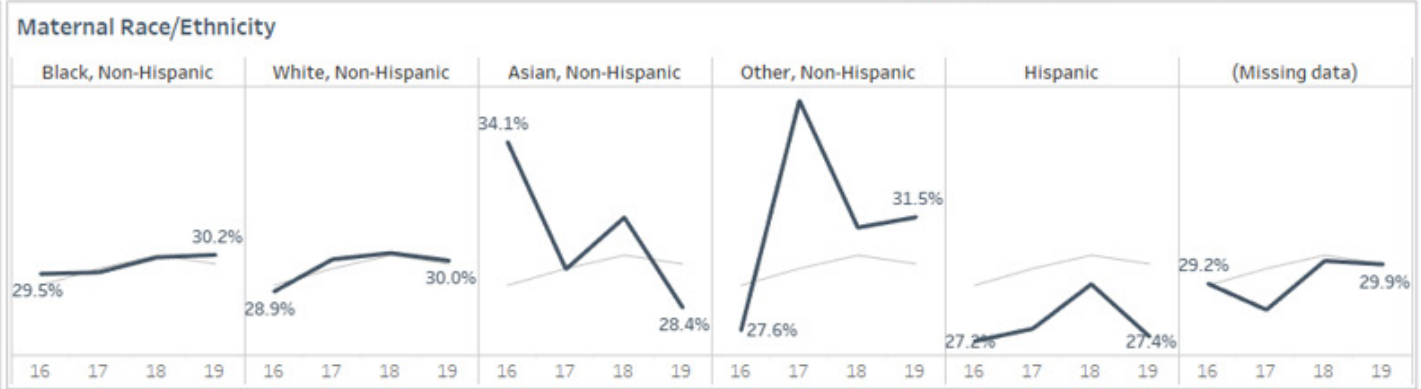
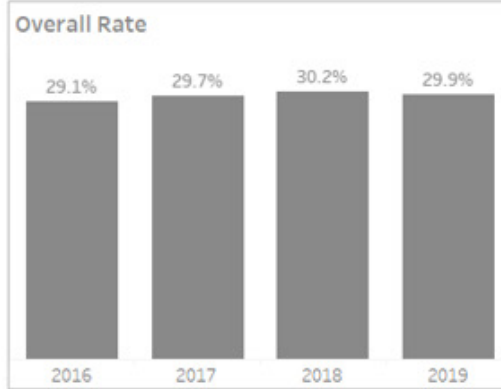
# Perinatal Episode C-Section Details

Select Quality Measure

- HIV Screening
- C-Section
- Follow-up Visit
- Chlamydia Screening

Which Episodes?

- (All)
- Valid
- Excluded



## Ohio's Next Generation of Managed Care



- **Low Risk Cesarean Delivery is part of a suite of markers for Quality.**
- **The primary locus of influence is within hospitals.**
  - (hospital associations, perinatal quality collaboratives)
- **Medicaid programs can have some influence through:**
  - Payment (Vaginal=Cesarean delivery rates)
  - Value-based models of care such as CMC; hospital contracting
  - Expanded workforce: more family physicians, midwives, doulas
  - Opportunities related to alternative birthing units that prioritize the birthing experience for mothers from minority communities
  - Support for perinatal quality improvement efforts
    - (PQCs, LCs, PIPs, population health management/equity approaches)

# California / CMQCC's Initiative to Support Vaginal Births and Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Deliveries

Elliott K. Main, MD

Medical Director

California Maternal **Quality** Care Collaborative

Clinical Professor, Department of Ob/Gyn

Stanford University School of Medicine

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# United States Overall (Total) and NTSV Cesarean Rates:1990-2013

- 50% rise in cesarean section (CS) rates over a 10 year period
- Cesarean deliveries account for 1/3 US births and are the most common hospital surgery

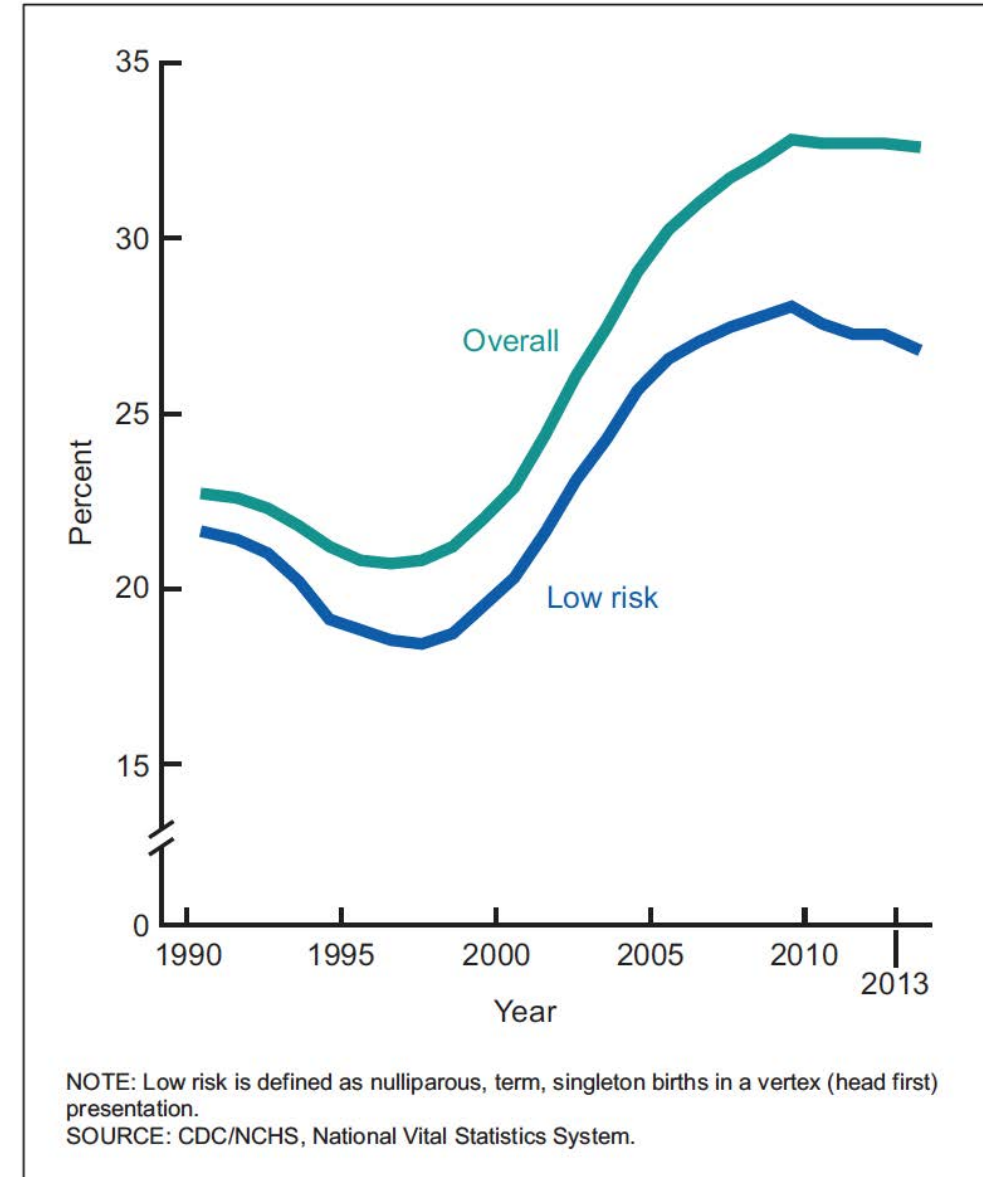


Figure 1. Overall cesarean delivery and low-risk cesarean delivery: United States, final 1990–2012 and preliminary 2013



By Katy Backes Kozhimannil, Michael R. Law, and Beth A. Virnig

# Cesarean Delivery Rates Vary Tenfold Among US Hospitals; Reducing Variation May Address Quality And Cost Issues

DOI: 10.1377/hlthaff.2012.1030  
HEALTH AFFAIRS 32,  
NO. 3 (2013): 527-535  
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The People-to-People Health  
Foundation, Inc.

**ABSTRACT** Cesarean delivery is the most commonly performed surgical procedure in the United States, and cesarean rates are increasing. Working with 2009 data from 593 US hospitals nationwide, we found that cesarean rates varied tenfold across hospitals, from 7.1 percent to 69.9 percent. Even for women with lower-risk pregnancies, in which more limited variation might be expected, cesarean rates varied fifteenfold, from 2.4 percent to 36.5 percent. Thus, vast differences in practice patterns are likely to be driving the costly overuse of cesarean delivery in many US hospitals. Because Medicaid pays for nearly half of US births, government efforts to decrease variation are warranted. We focus on four promising directions for reducing these variations, including better coordinating maternity care, collecting and measuring more data, tying Medicaid payment to quality improvement, and enhancing patient-centered decision making through public reporting.

**Katy Backes Kozhimannil** (kbk@umn.edu) is an assistant professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, in Minneapolis.

**Michael R. Law** is an assistant professor in the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, School of Population and Public Health, at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver.

**Beth A. Virnig** is associate dean of research and a professor at the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota.

# Major Maternal Complications: Vaginal Births versus Primary Cesareans, Repeat Cesareans, and VBAC

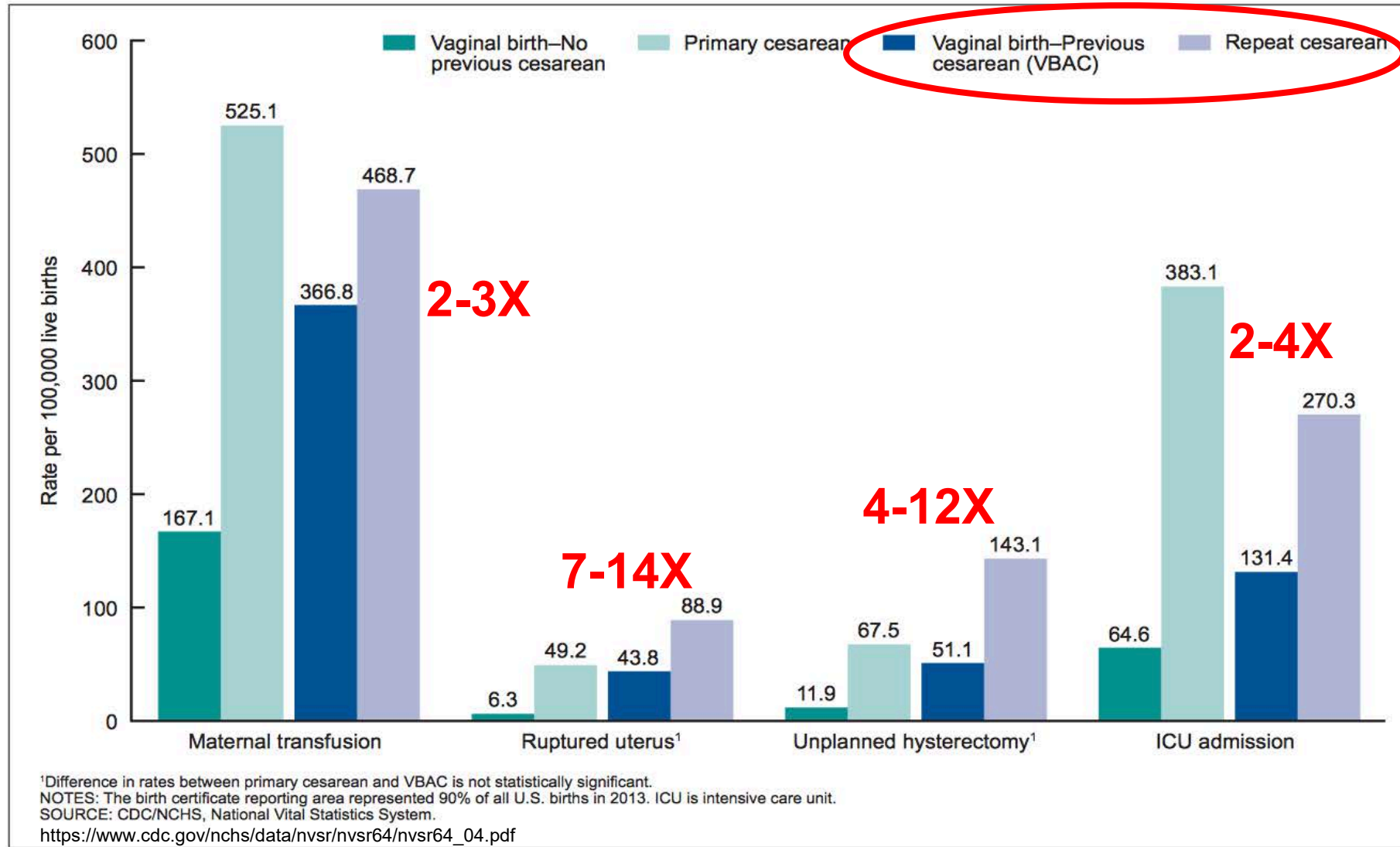


Figure 1. Maternal morbidity, by method of delivery and previous cesarean history: 41-state and District of Columbia reporting area, 2013



## Importance of the First Labor and Birth

If a woman has a Cesarean birth in the first labor, over 90% of ALL subsequent births will be Cesarean births



**A classic example of path dependency**

If a woman has a vaginal birth in the first labor, over 90% of ALL subsequent births will be vaginal births

# Low-risk Cesarean Delivery Rate aka Nulliparous, Term, Singleton, Vertex (NTSV)

- Risk Stratified (“standard population”)
  - No further risk-adjustment needed
- Widely adopted nationally
  - ACOG: Task Force on Cesarean Section rates (2000)
  - HHS: Healthy People 2010, 2020, 2030 (Low-risk First-birth CS)
  - NQF endorsed, The Joint Commission (TJC) Perinatal Core Measure (PC-02), CMS Child Core Set Measure Set, LeapFrog, US News & World Report
- >20 years experience
- National data and trends available (annual National Center for Health Statistics)
- States can use birth certificate data and come within 0.1-0.2% of TJC PC-02

**COUNCIL ON PATIENT SAFETY  
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE**  
safe health care for every woman

**SAFE REDUCTION OF PRIMARY CESAREAN BIRTHS:  
SUPPORTING INTENDED VAGINAL BIRTHS**

**READINESS**

*Every Patient, Provider and Facility*

- Build a provider and maternity unit culture that values, promotes, and supports spontaneous onset and progress of labor and vaginal birth and understands the risks for current and future pregnancies of cesarean birth without medical indication.
- Optimize patient and family engagement in education, informed consent, and shared decision making about normal healthy labor and birth throughout the maternity care cycle.
- Adopt provider education and training techniques that develop knowledge and skills on approaches which maximize the likelihood of vaginal birth, including assessment of labor, methods to promote labor progress, labor support, pain management (both pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic), and shared decision making.

**RECOGNITION AND PREVENTION**

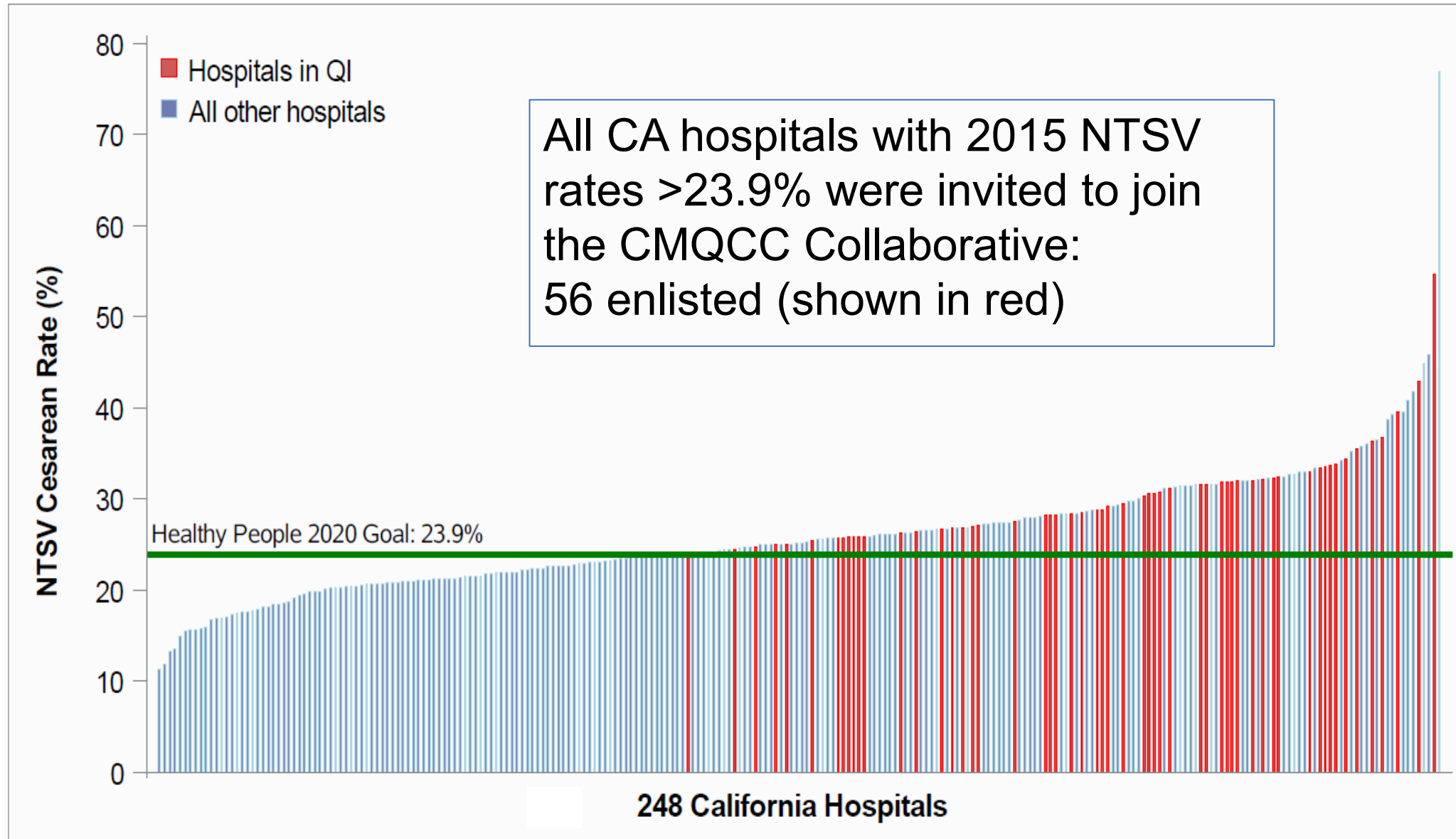
*Every patient*

- Implement standardized admission criteria, triage management, education, and support for women presenting in spontaneous labor.
- Offer standardized techniques of pain management and comfort measures that promote labor progress and prevent dysfunctional labor.
- Use standardized methods in the assessment of the fetal heart rate status, including interpretation, documentation using NICHD terminology, and encourage methods that promote freedom of movement.
- Adopt protocols for timely identification of specific problems, such as herpes and breech presentation, for patients who can benefit from proactive intervention before labor to reduce the risk for cesarean birth.

**Safe Reduction of  
Primary Cesarean Births**

**PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE**

# Variation in NTSV Cesarean Rate among CA Hospitals (2015)



# KEY RESOURCES:

**PATIENT SAFETY BUNDLE**  
**Safe Reduction of Primary Cesarean Births**

**SAFE REDUCTION OF PRIMARY CESAREAN BIRTHS: SUPPORTING INTENDED VAGINAL BIRTHS**  
**READINESS**  
 Every Patient, Provider and Facility

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**COMMITTEE OPINION**  
 Number 687 • February 2017  
**Committee on Obstetric Practice**  
 The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses endorse this document. This Committee Opinion was developed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Committee on Obstetric Practice, in collaboration with American College of Nurse-Midwives' liaison member Taina L. King, CNM, MPH, and College committee members Kurt B. Williams, MD, Jeffrey L. Eisen, MD, and Joseph B. Was, MD. This document reflects emerging clinical and scientific advances as of the date issued and is subject to change. The information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed.

**Approaches to Limit Intervention During Labor and Birth**  
**ABSTRACT:** Obstetrician-gynecologists, in collaboration with midwives, nurses, patients, and those who support them in labor, can help women meet their goals for labor and birth by using techniques that are associated with minimal interventions and high rates of patient satisfaction. Many common obstetric practices are of limited or uncertain benefit for low-risk women in spontaneous labor. For women who are in latent labor and are not admitted, a process of shared decision making is recommended. Admission during the latent phase of labor may be necessary for a variety of reasons. A pregnant woman with term premature rupture of membranes (also known as prelabor rupture of membranes) should be assessed, and the woman and her obstetrician-gynecologist or other obstetric care provider should discuss the risks and benefits of continuing labor or cesarean delivery. Data suggest that in women with spontaneous labor, cesarean delivery is not necessary. Techniques that are associated with improved outcomes when used for low-risk women can be used to help women achieve their goals for labor and birth. These techniques require routine continuous fetal monitoring, which is not routinely prescribed. Nipple stimulation is not recommended. For women with prelabor rupture of membranes, a period of rest for 1-2 hours before delivery is recommended. Providers should be familiar with the management of low-risk women.

**CMQCC**  
 California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative

**Toolkit to Support Vaginal Birth and Reduce Primary Cesareans**  
 A Quality Improvement Toolkit

**OBSTETRIC CARE CONSENSUS**  
**Safe Prevention of the Primary Cesarean Delivery**  
 Number 1 • March 2014

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
 WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

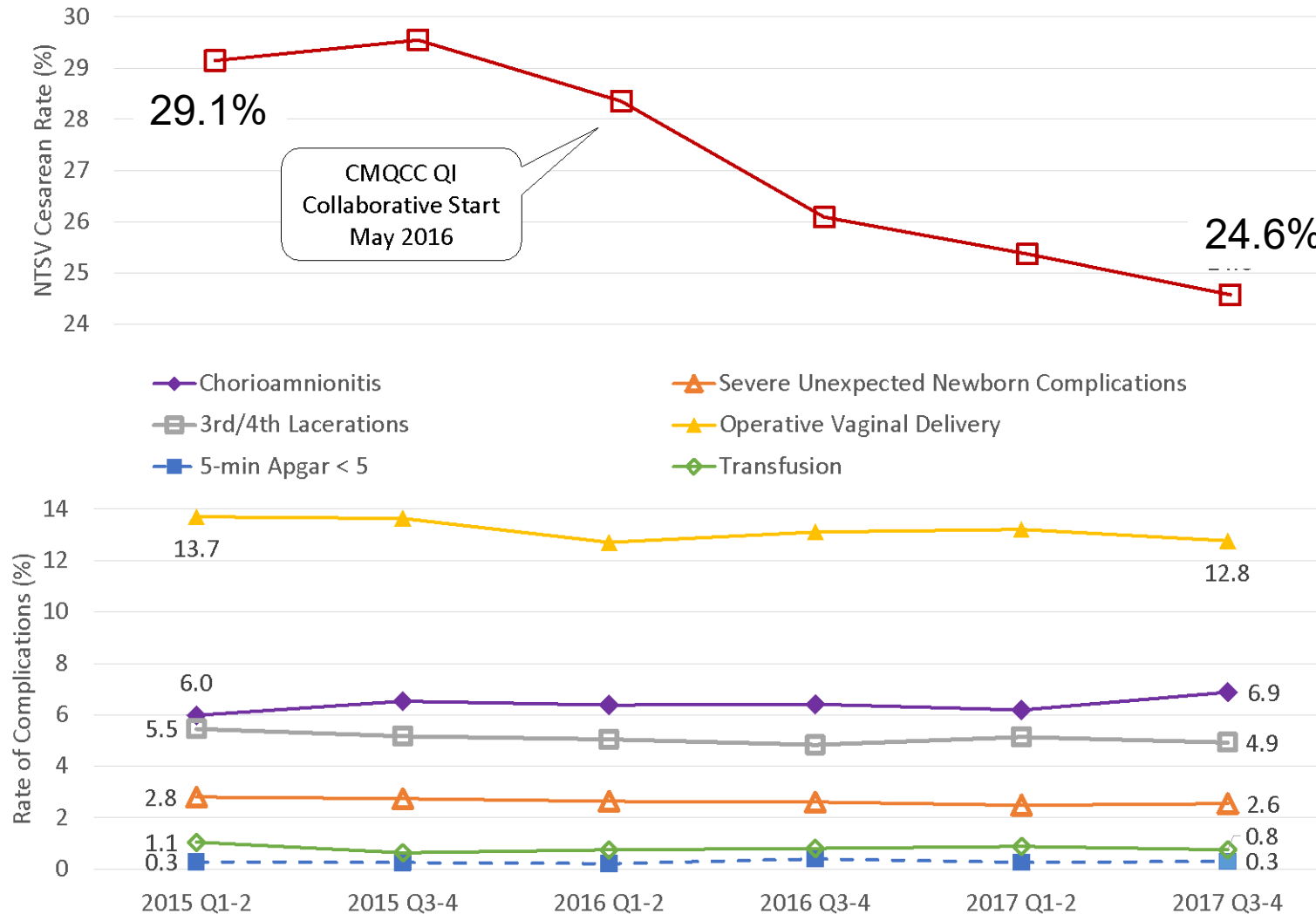
# COMMON QI ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Labor support techniques
- 2) Active phase guidelines
- 3) CS rate transparency (unit and provider)
- 4) Latent phase guidelines
- 5) Induction guidelines
- 6) Techniques to reduce occiput posterior (face up fetal presentation)
- 7) Patient engagement
- 8) Unit culture/teamwork
- 9) Longer 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage

(in approximate order of use)



# Trendlines for NTSV Cesarean and Safety Measures Rates (6-month blocks) CMQCC

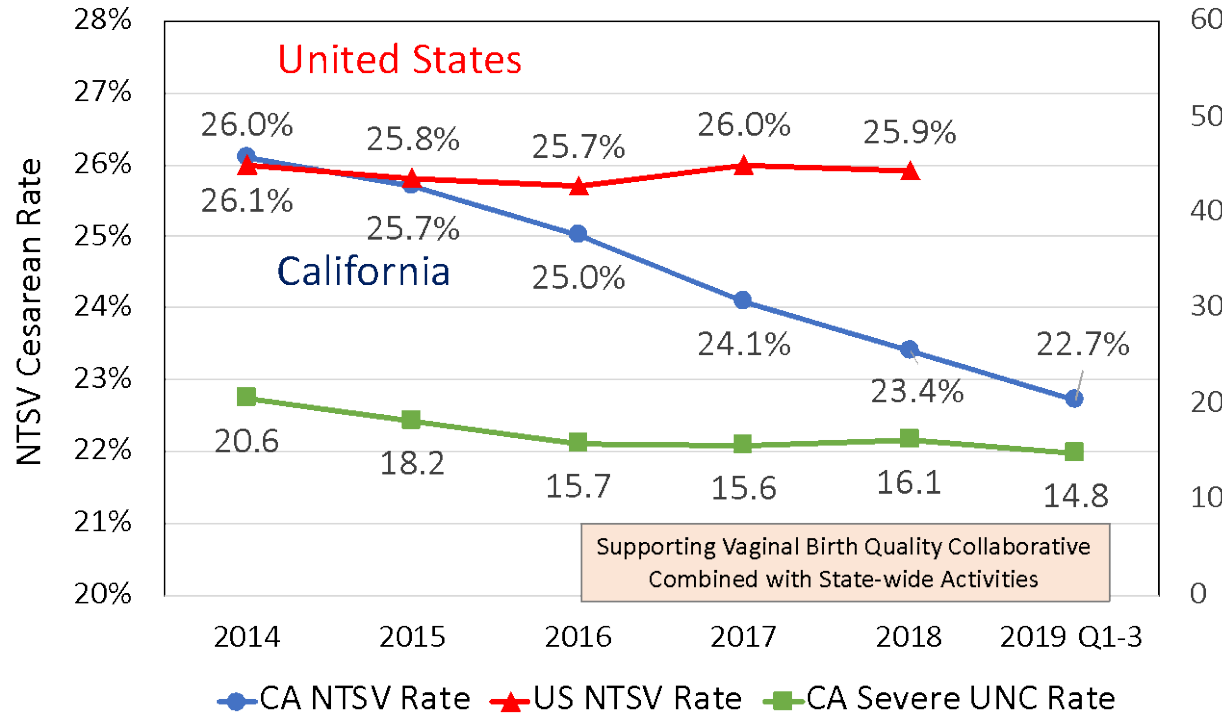


Early results in these 56 hospitals showed promising reductions and safety!

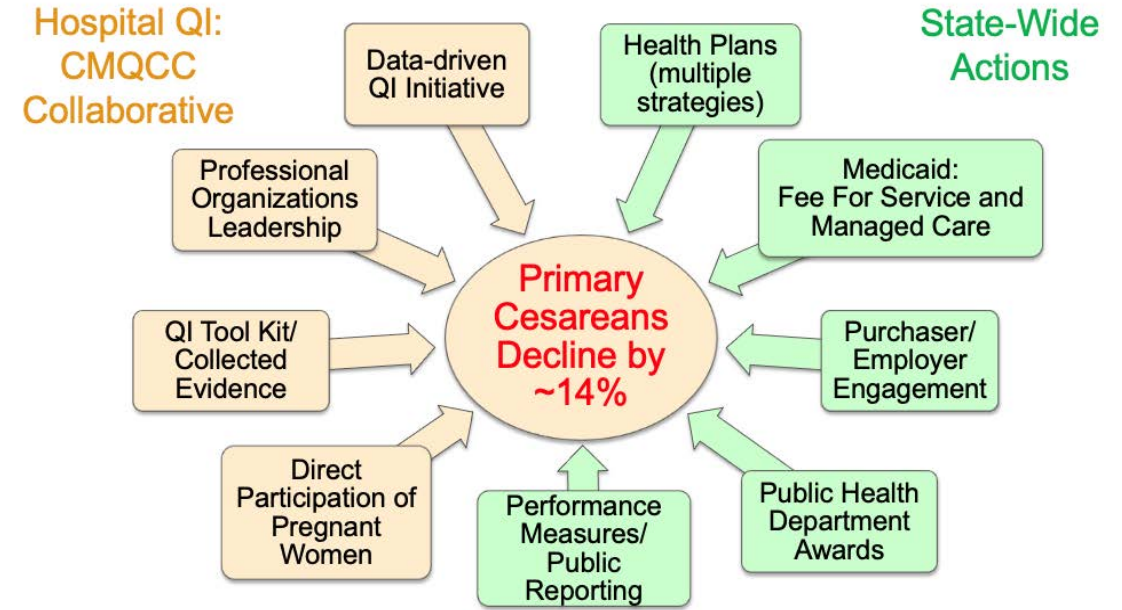
All balancing (safety) metrics showed no harm from lowering the NTSV cesarean delivery rate

In fact, baby outcomes were better!

## First Birth Low-Risk Cesarean Rate



## State-wide Initiative Activities

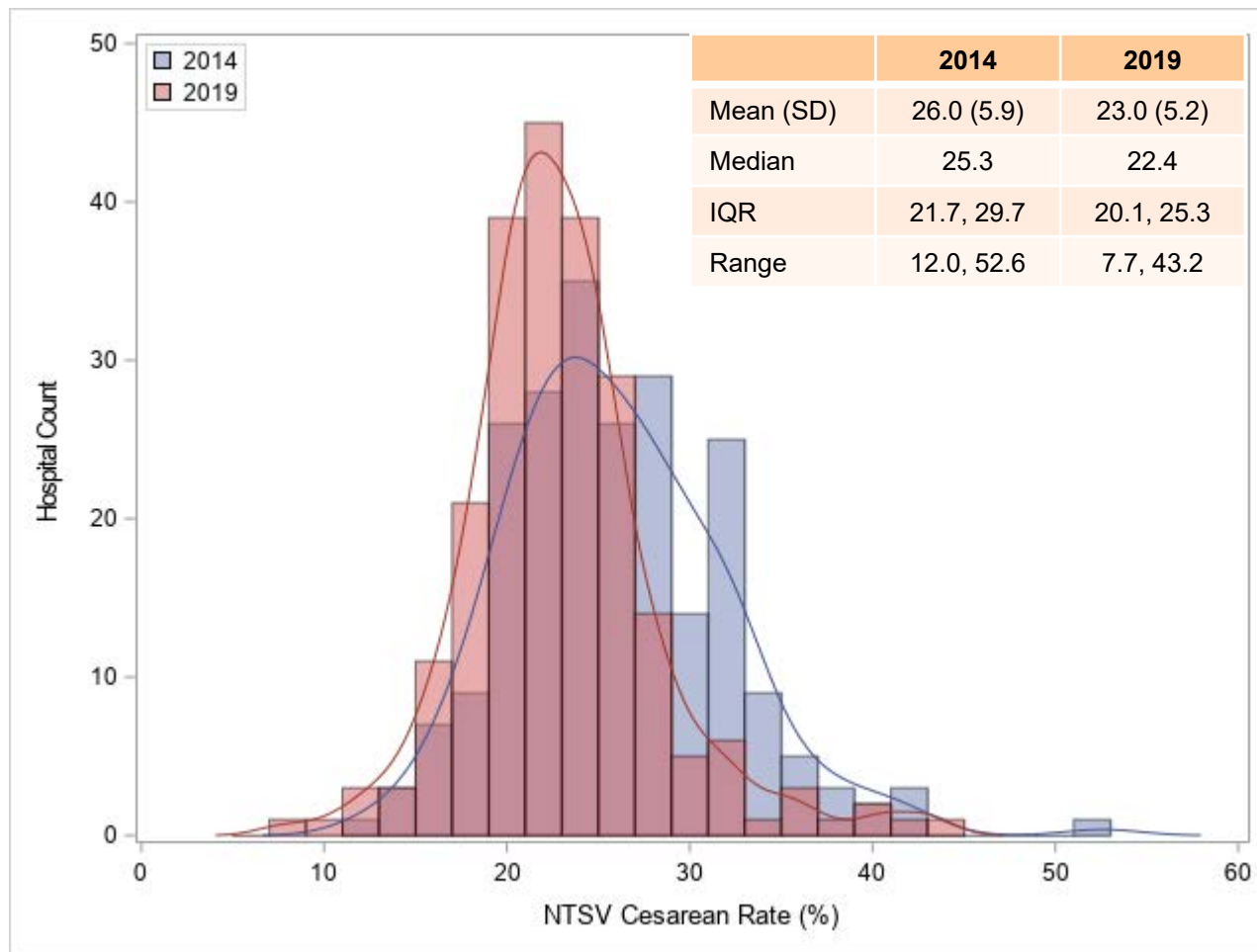


### Collaborative Action : Collective Impact

- Hospital level variation is dramatic for all OB metrics
- In 2014, hospital variation was extreme: 14% to 70%
- In 2020, variation still present but much more limited

Rosenstein MG, Chang S-C, Sakowski C, Markow C, Teleki S, Lang L, Logan J, Cape V, Main EK. Hospital Quality Improvement Interventions and Statewide Policy Initiatives and Rates of Nulliparous Term Singleton Vertex Cesarean Deliveries in California. JAMA 2021. Apr 27;325(16):1631-1639.

-- Comparison of 2014 to 2019, 226 Hospitals --



This Project Meets All 3 Goals of a large-scale QI Initiative:

- Significant reduction in mean CS rates
- Significant reduction in variation (narrowing of the distribution curves)
- Reduction of outliers (hospitals with rates >30%)

Parametric Test	Statistics	Non-Parametric Test	Statistics
Paired t-test (equality of means)	$P = 0.03$	Difference in medians	2.9, 95% CI: 1.6-4.1
Pitman's test (equality of variances)	$P < 0.01$	Difference in IQR	2.8, 95% CI: 1.2-4.3

# Recognition



Mother and Baby ?

	Current	State Average
C-Section Rate (NTSV)	AVERAGE 25.1% (lower is better)	25.4% (lower is better)
Breastfeeding Rate	SUPERIOR 92.6%	68.5%
Episiotomy Rate	AVERAGE 9.5%	9.5%
VBAC Routinely Available		
VBAC Rate		

**El Camino Hospital** Claimed  
320 reviews  
Hospitals, Emergency Rooms, Obstetricians & Gynecologists

**Maternity Care Data** View More  
Based on data from Cal Hospital Compare

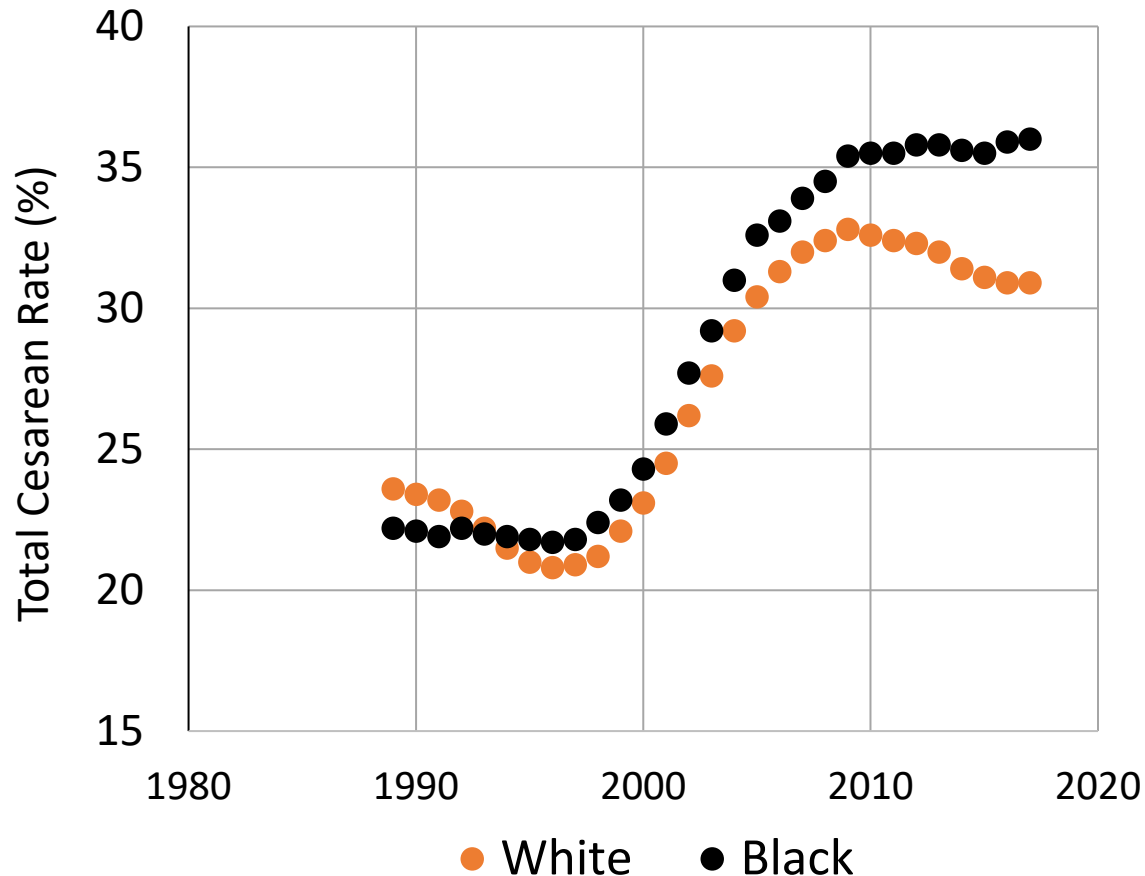
- C-Section Rate Average Rate
- Breastfeeding Rate Well Above Average Rate
- Episiotomy Rate Average Rate
- VBAC Routinely Available Yes
- VBAC Rate Below Average Rate

- CalHospitalCompare.org
- Yelp
- Joint Commission Measure
- Yearly Recognition by the CA Secretary of HHS for Hospitals With NTSV CS Rates <23.9%



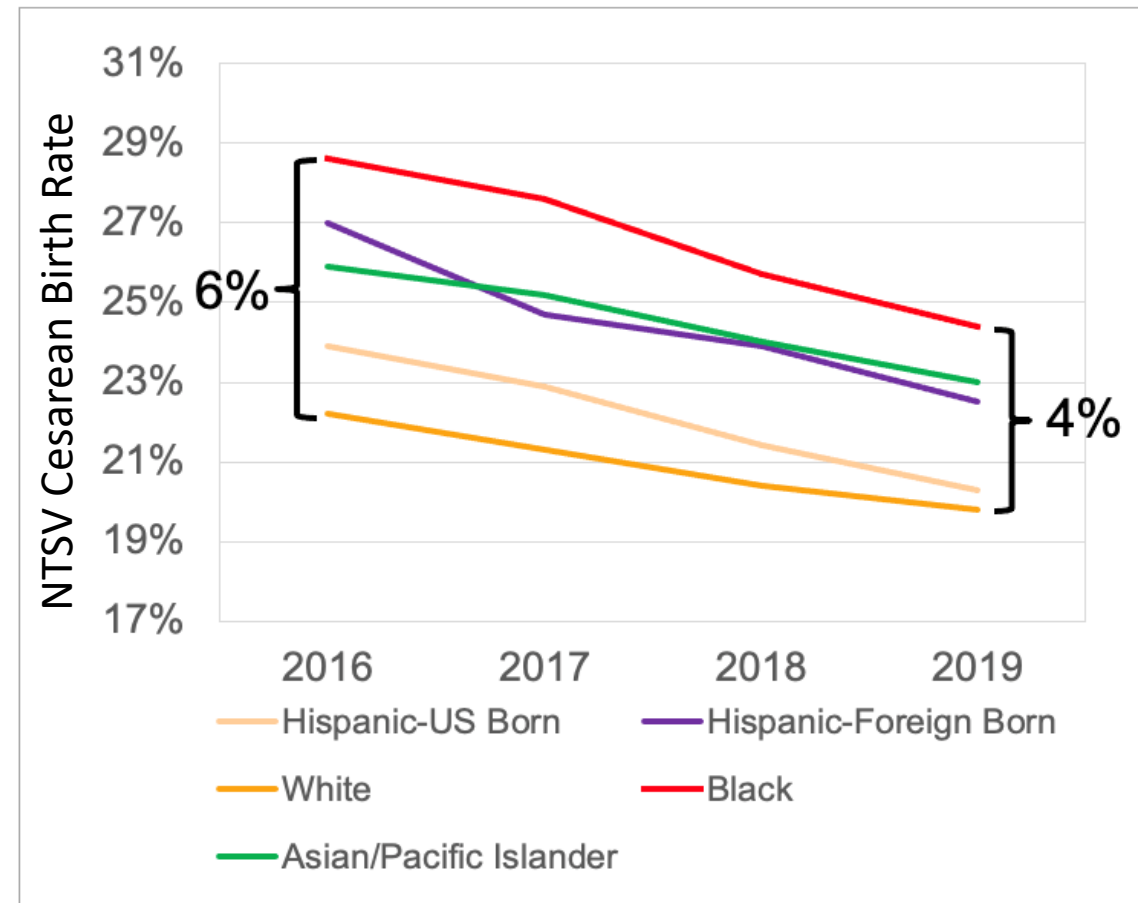
- SmartCare California
  - Consortium of purchasers and payers developed engagement strategies
- Covered California (Affordable Care Act purchasing organization)
  - Pushed Health Plans to contract with hospitals meeting target or engaged with collaborative
- Some Commercial and Managed Medicaid Health Plans added NTSV CS to their quality incentive program
- Medicaid (Medi-Cal) structured their CMS 1115 Waiver program to include incentives for safety net hospitals to meet NTSV target
- Beginning in 2022 all California Medicaid MCOs will report their NTSV CS rates

## U.S. Cesarean Birth Rates by Race (NCHS-NVR Report)



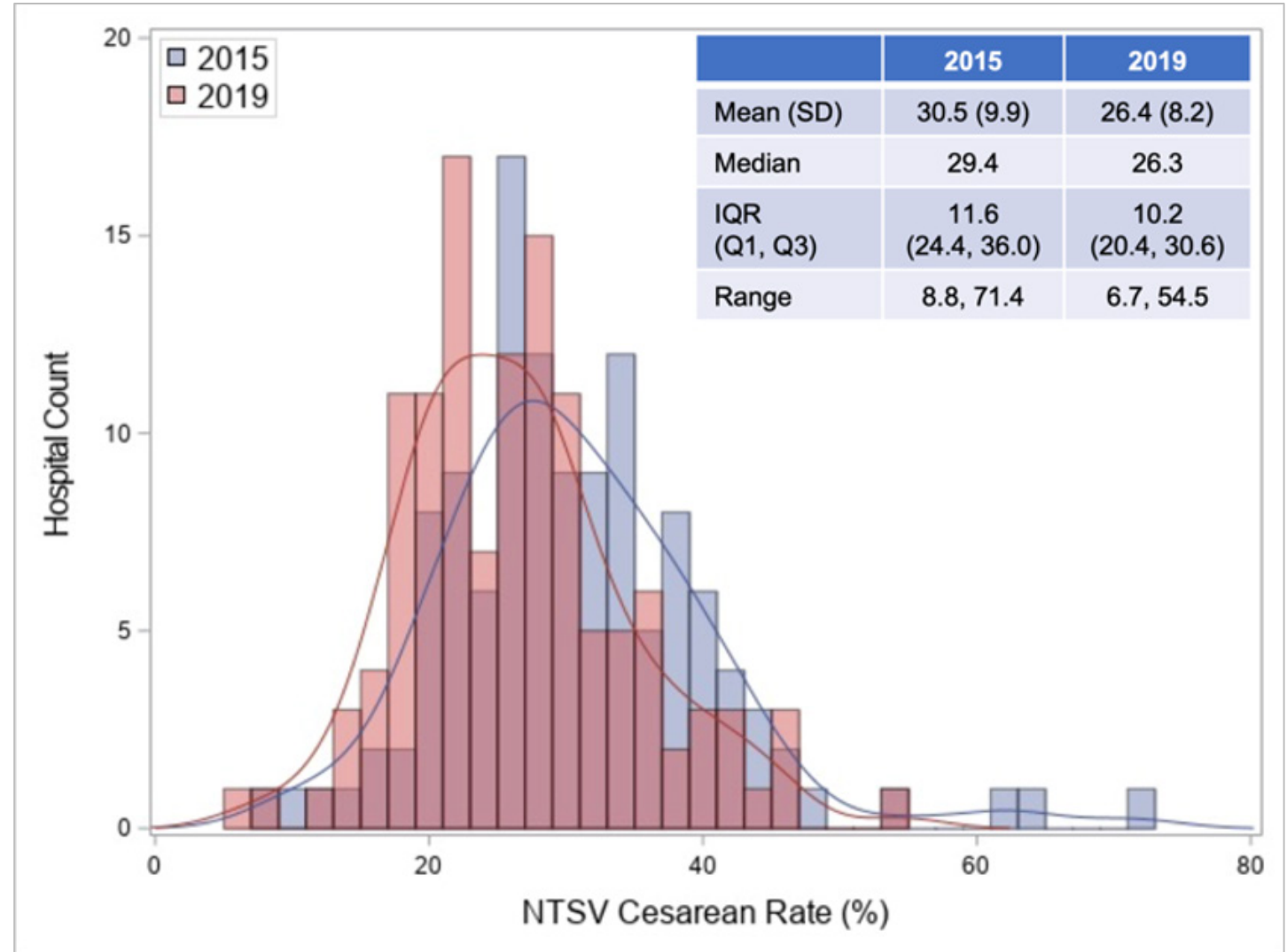
- Until 1995 Black women had lower Cesarean rates than White women
- The Black:White Cesarean rate disparity is actually worsening since 2010

## NTSV Cesarean Birth Rates by Race and Ethnicity Adjusted for Age and BMI



- All races demonstrated significant improvement
- Black mothers decreased more than others, narrowing the difference
- Can standardized care reduce the subjectivity (and bias) in labor decisions?

- 123 hospitals with at least 10 Black NTSV births
- Similar shift in distribution from 2015 to 2019
- Note the large number of hospitals that met the HP2020 target for their Black population



- “Don’t try this alone”...collect as many partner organizations as possible
- Good and timely data is critical
- Co-lead with an experienced OB QI organization to help lead change (e.g., state perinatal quality collaborative)
- Pull every lever...

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# Questions

Doris Lotz, Mathematica

# Reminder: How to Submit a Question

- **Use the Q&A function to submit questions or comments**
  - To submit a question or comment, click the Q&A pod and type in the text box
  - Select “All Panelists” in the “Ask” field before submitting your question or comment
  - Only the presentation team will be able to see your comments

The screenshot shows a chat window with a 'Chat' header and a close button. Below the header is a 'To:' dropdown menu set to 'Host'. A text input field is labeled 'Enter chat message here'. Below this is a 'Q&A' pod with a close button and the text 'All (0)'. At the bottom, there is an 'Ask:' dropdown menu set to 'All Panelists', a text input field with a 256-character limit warning, and a 'Send' button. Two red arrows originate from the text instructions on the left: one points to the 'Q&A' pod and the other points to the 'Ask:' dropdown menu.

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# Announcements and Next Steps

Kate Nilles, Mathematica



# Announcements and Next Steps

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- **Webinar recording and slides will be posted on Medicaid.gov at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health-care-quality/index.html>**
- **Upcoming webinars**
  - State Medicaid and CHIP Agencies and Obstetrical Partners: Working Together to Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Deliveries: **TBD**
  - Using Data to Plan and Assess Quality Improvement Strategies to Reduce Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery in Medicaid and CHIP: **TBD**
  - Informational webinar: Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group: Overview and Process for Expression of Interest: **TBD**
- **Register for additional webinars at <https://mathematica.webex.com/mathematica/onstage/g.php?PRID=b8c2078478d3be51928f2d528cb7a26c>**

# Resources

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- **MIHI Webpage:** <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health-care-quality/index.html>
- **Maternal and Infant Health Beneficiary Profile:** <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/mih-beneficiary-profile.pdf>
- **Maternal and Infant Health Expert Workgroup Report of Recommendations:** <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/mih-expert-workgroup-recommendations.pdf>
- **Maternity Core Set Information:** <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health/data-and-measurement/index.html>

# Thank you for participating!

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- Please **complete the evaluation** as you exit the webinar.
- If you have any **questions**, or we didn't have time to get to your question, **please email** [MACQualityImprovement@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:MACQualityImprovement@mathematica-mpr.com)

