

Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group: Overview and Process for Expression of Interest

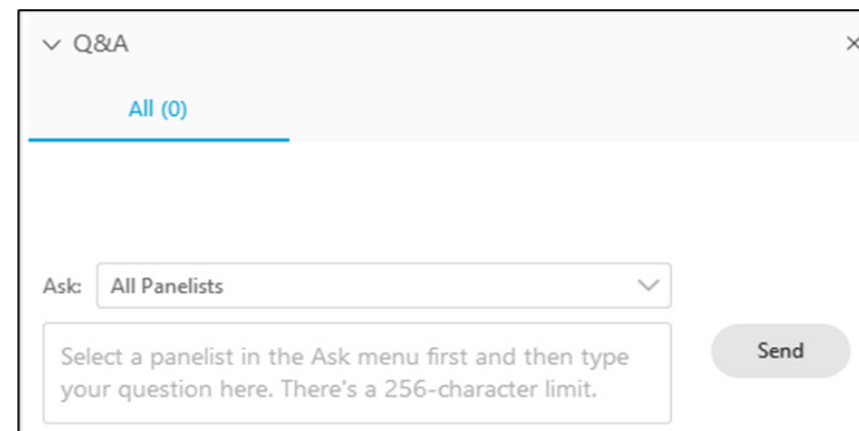
June 29, 2022

Kristen Zycherman, CMS

Lekisha Daniel-Robinson and Kate Nilles, Mathematica

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
 - Type your question in the text box and click “Send”
 - Only the presentation team will be able to see your questions and comments
- **For technical questions, select “Host” in the “Ask” menu**



Q&A

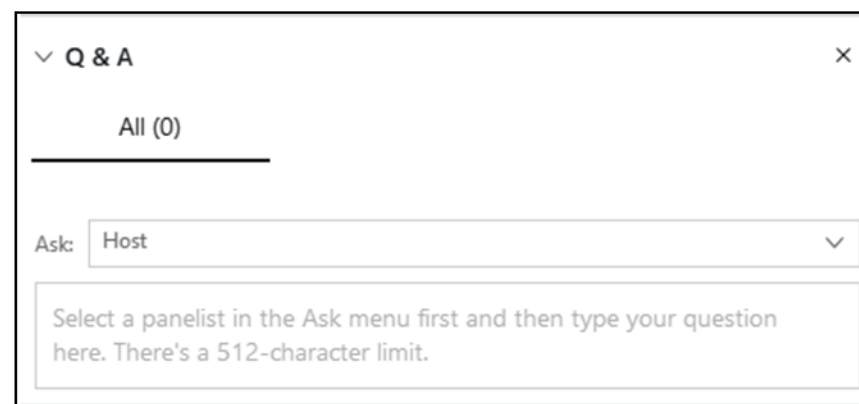
All (0)

Ask: All Panelists

Select a panelist in the Ask menu first and then type your question here. There's a 256-character limit.

Send

This screenshot shows the Q&A interface with the 'Ask' menu set to 'All Panelists'. A red arrow points from the text 'select "All Panelists" in the "Ask" menu' to the dropdown menu. Another red arrow points from the text 'click "Send"' to the 'Send' button.



Q & A

All (0)

Ask: Host

Select a panelist in the Ask menu first and then type your question here. There's a 512-character limit.

This screenshot shows the Q&A interface with the 'Ask' menu set to 'Host'. A red arrow points from the text 'select "Host" in the "Ask" menu' to the dropdown menu.

Agenda

Topic	Speakers
Welcome and Overview of the CMS Maternal and Infant Health Initiative	Kristen Zycherman, CMS
Overview of the <i>Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group</i> & Completing the Expression of Interest (EOI)	Lekisha Daniel-Robinson, Mathematica
Questions and Answers	Lekisha Daniel-Robinson, Mathematica
Announcements and Next Steps	Kate Nilles, Mathematica

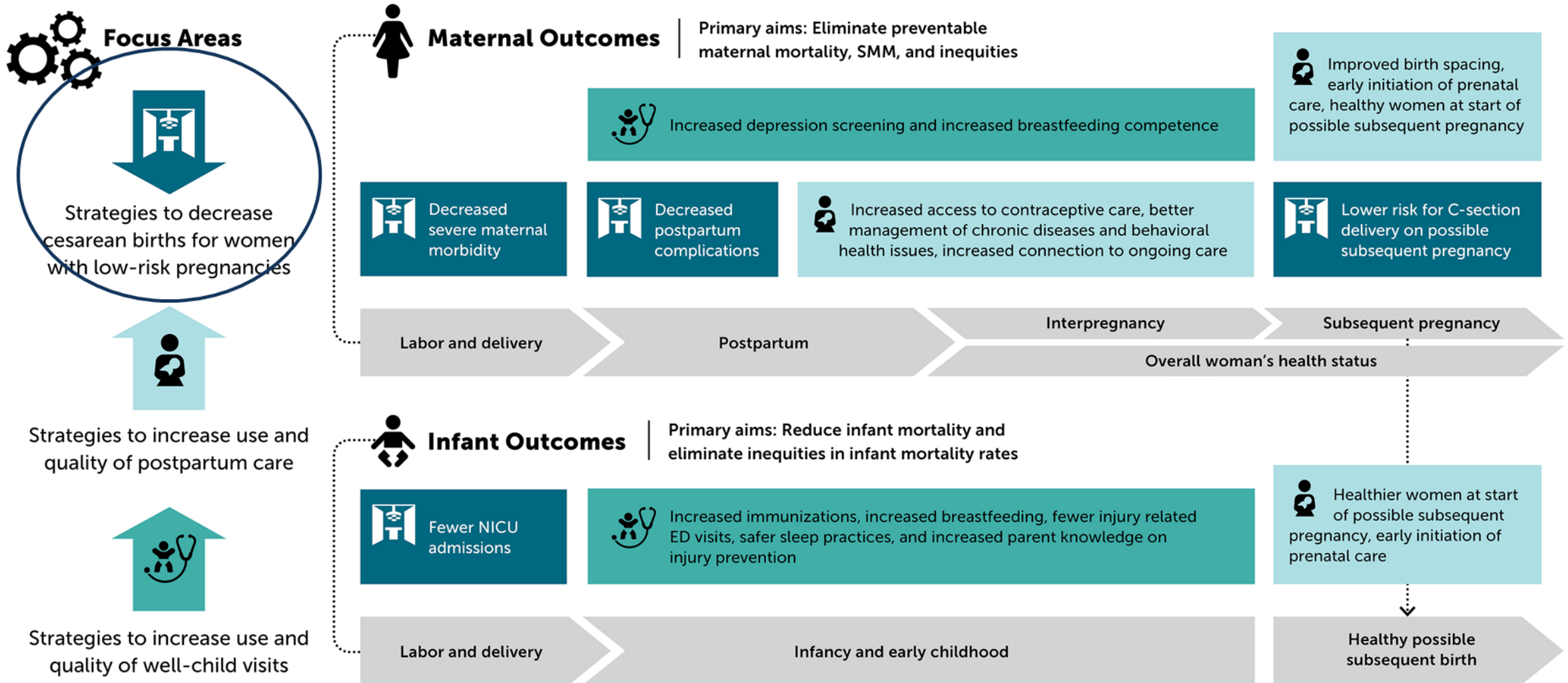
Welcome from the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

Kristen Zycherman, CMS

Maternal and Infant Health Initiative

- **The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) launched the Maternal and Infant Health Initiative (MIHI) in July 2014**
- **The MIHI was built on recommendations from CMS's Expert Panel on Improving Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes in Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and focused on improving the rate and quality of postpartum visits and increasing the use of effective methods of contraception**
- **In 2019, CMS convened a MIH expert workgroup to identify and prioritize recommendations in three areas where Medicaid and CHIP have a significant opportunity to influence change**
 - Decrease the rate of cesarean births in low-risk pregnancies
 - Increase the use and quality of postpartum care visits
 - Increase the use and quality of well-child visits for infants 0 to 15 months

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

- **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 Process for Expression of Interest
- Recordings are available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health/quality-improvement/Low-Risk-Cesarean-Delivery/index.html>

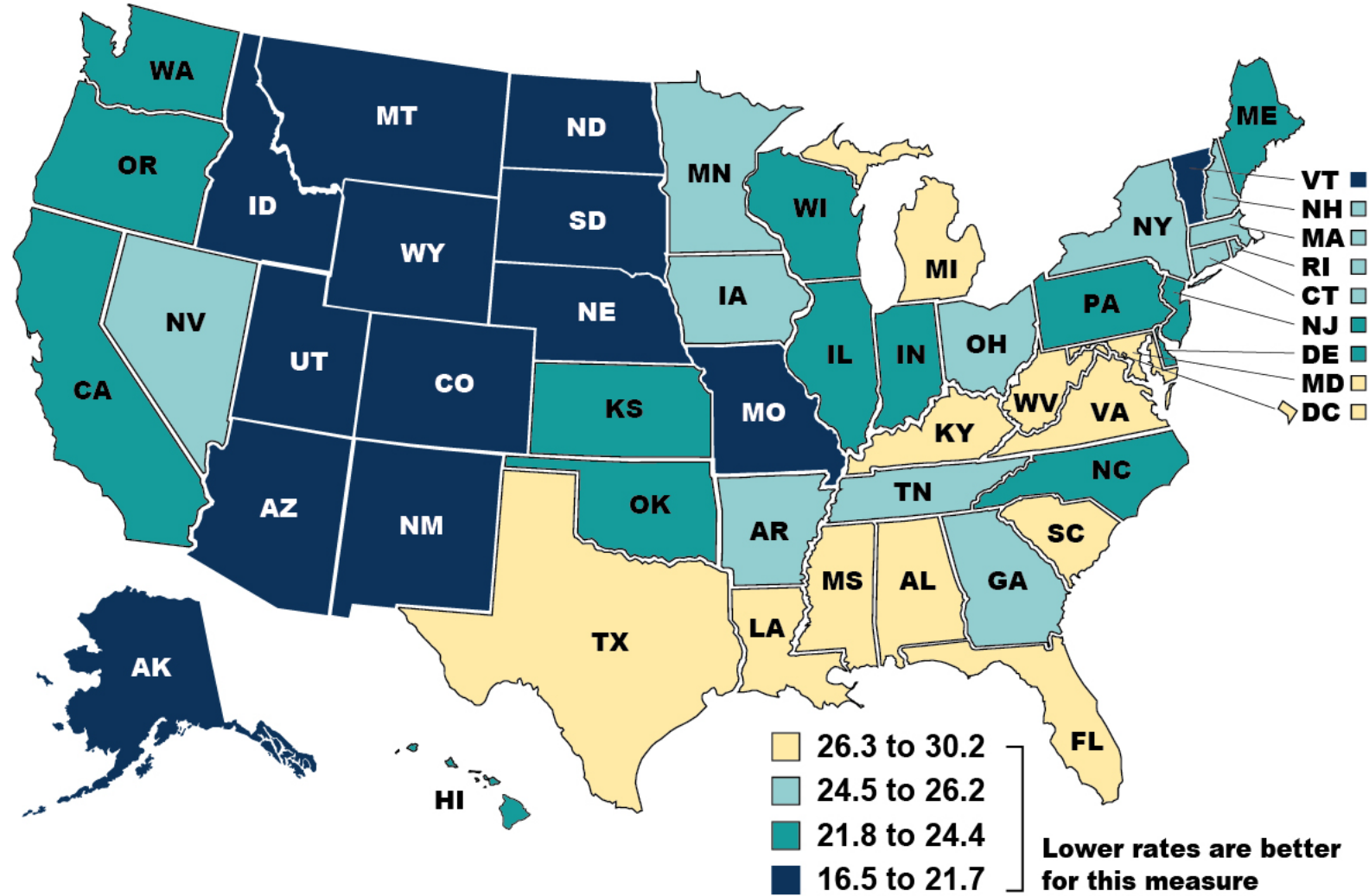
Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

- 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, address inequities, and advance their knowledge of and skills in quality improvement (QI)
- EOIs are due **July 15, 2022, at 8:00 pm ET**
- More information is available at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health-care-quality/index.html>

Structure of the Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

Lekisha Daniel-Robinson, Mathematica

Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Rate per 100 Deliveries, by State: Births Paid by Medicaid, 2020

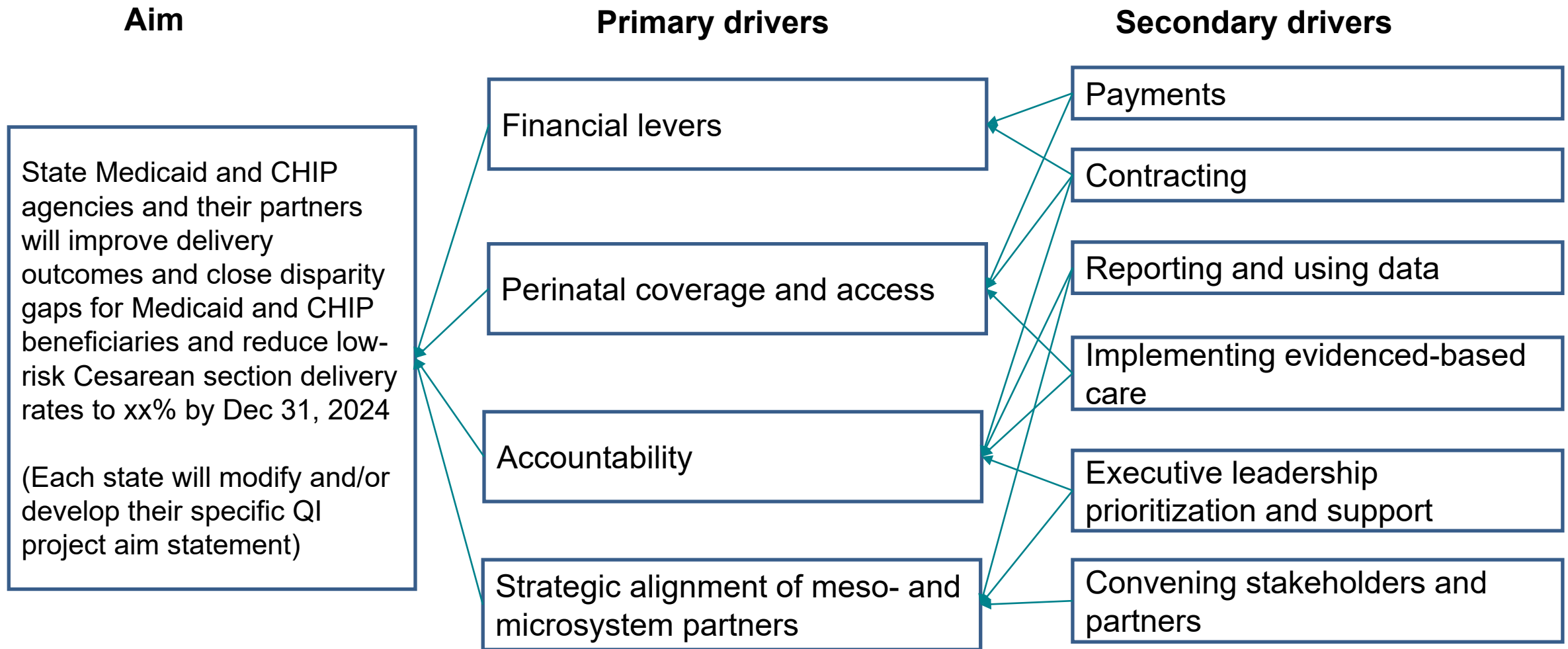


Source:
National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). 2020
Nativity Public Use Data on CDC WONDER online
database.

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



State Medicaid and CHIP Agency Drivers to Improve LRCs



Where is your state in this journey?



State Medicaid agency partners to address maternal and infant health in the state.



State Medicaid agency establishes data sharing processes.



Medicaid and partners identifies interventions to address LRCD.



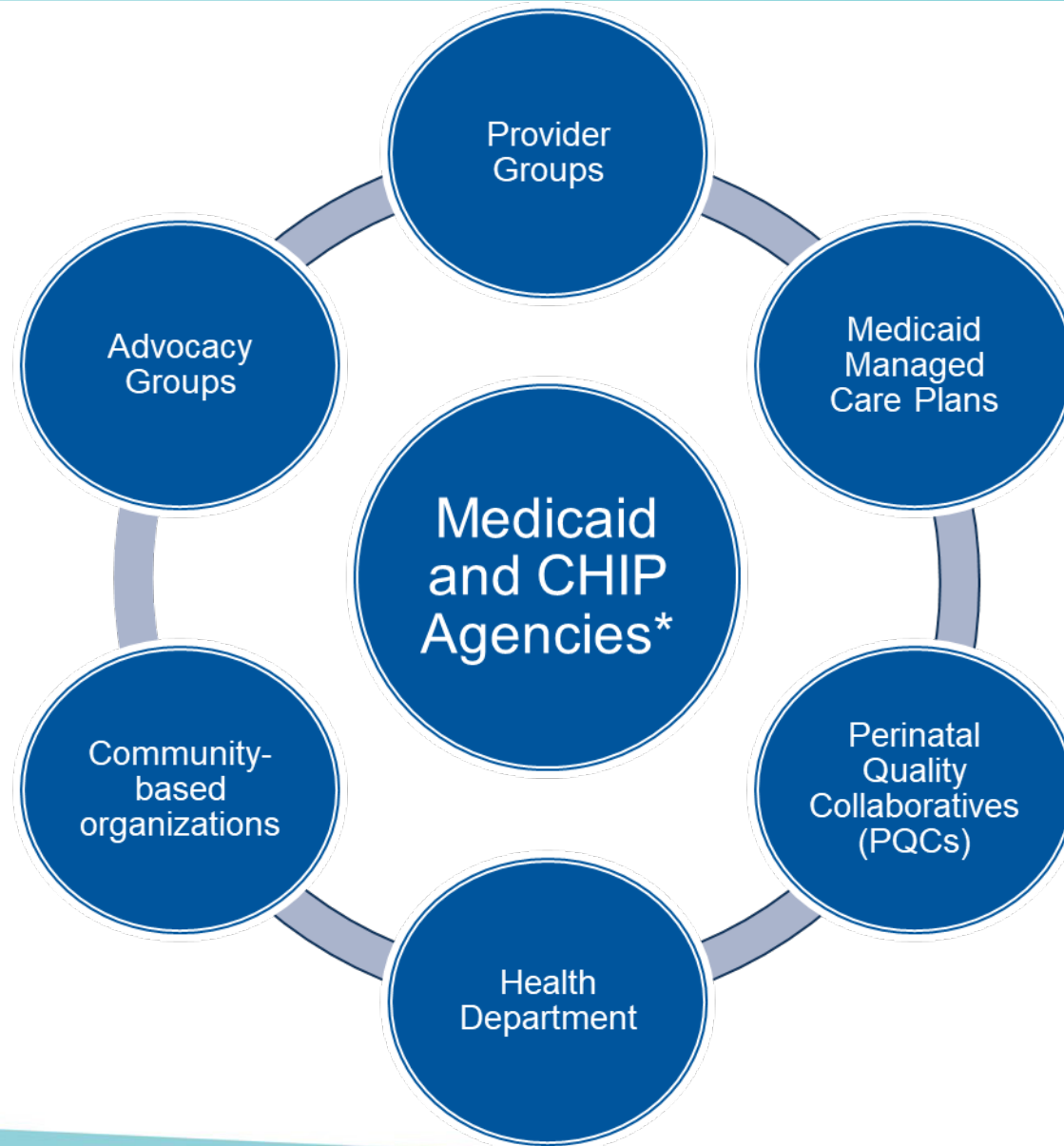
State Medicaid agency identifies LRCD as an area of focus.



State Medicaid agency and partners plan for quality improvement.

Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

***State
Medicaid or
CHIP agency
must serve
as lead or
co-lead**



Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

What technical assistance will be provided to affinity group states?

- Tailored state curriculum and support to target LRCD reduction goals
- QI methods and strategies for reducing low-risk cesarean delivery rates at the state Medicaid and CHIP program level
- Dedicated QI advisor providing individual state coaching
- Peer exchange and learning opportunities
- 12 months of technical assistance followed by implementation support

LRCO Affinity Group Curriculum Overview

- **Project preparation**

- Leadership

- Engage Medicaid leadership
- Generate a Medicaid and CHIP aim statement
- Define a project

- Data

- Explore state data to identify QI opportunities
- Determine data sources and baselines

- Stakeholders

- Identify and engage QI partners

- **State QI project action plan and implementation**

- Commit to a shared **global aim** with QI partners
- Develop a **measurement strategy**
- Learn about and use **QI science**
- Conduct **small tests** of change
- Share and use **data to learn**
- Develop **action plan** for scaling and spreading tested QI change

Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group Criteria

What are the criteria for state participation in the affinity group?

- Support from Medicaid or CHIP leadership
- Well-articulated goals
- Understanding of challenges and opportunities related to reducing LRCD rates in your state
- Access to data and analytic staff support
- Ability to commit approximately 10 to 15 hours each month to QI project

Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group

What do participants in other state affinity groups report about their experience?

Regular meetings helped state teams develop and remain on track with their goals.



Affinity groups provided a unique opportunity to learn about and share best practices with peer states.

Collaboration with QI advisors and subject matter experts allowed states to pursue high-impact structural and policy changes.

Completing the Expression of Interest Form

Lekisha Daniel-Robinson, Mathematica

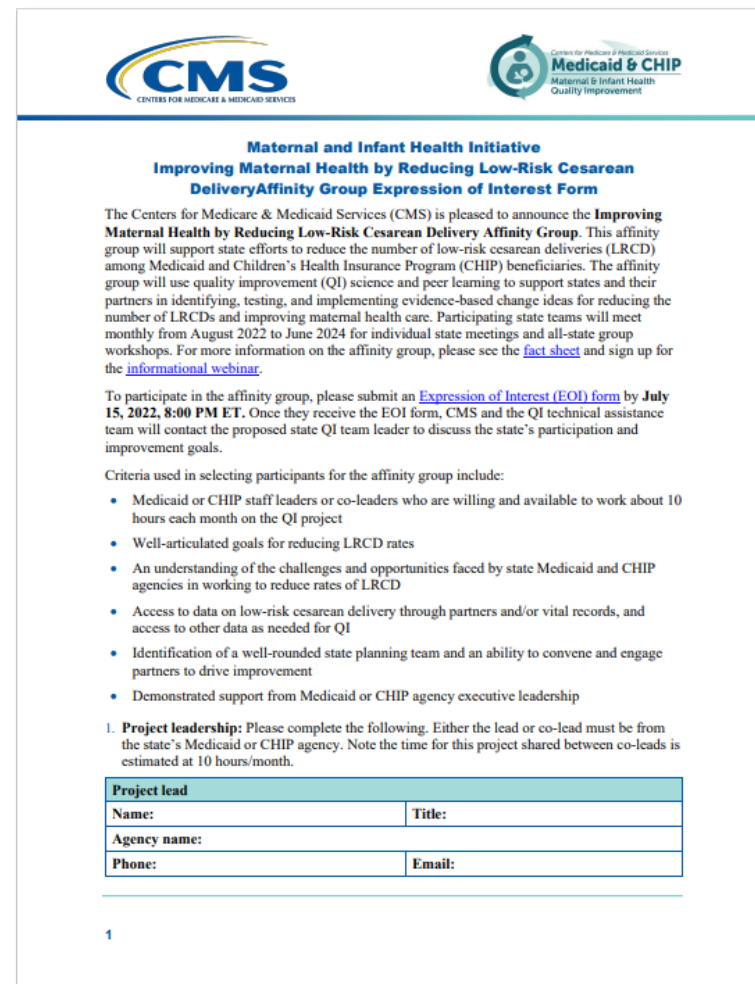
EOI Form Questions

1. Project leadership

- A lead and co-lead are required
- Team lead or co-lead must be from the state Medicaid or CHIP agency
- Names, titles, agency names, and contact information of proposed co-leads

2. Participation goals

- Goals for participating, including reducing your LRCDD rate
- Any additional outcomes you would like to achieve



The screenshot shows the EOI form for the Maternal and Infant Health Initiative. It includes the CMS logo and the Medicaid & CHIP logo. The title is "Maternal and Infant Health Initiative Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group Expression of Interest Form". The text describes the initiative and the requirements for participation. It includes a list of criteria for selecting participants and a table for project leadership information.

Maternal and Infant Health Initiative
Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group Expression of Interest Form

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce the **Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group**. This affinity group will support state efforts to reduce the number of low-risk cesarean deliveries (LRCDD) among Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beneficiaries. The affinity group will use quality improvement (QI) science and peer learning to support states and their partners in identifying, testing, and implementing evidence-based change ideas for reducing the number of LRCDDs and improving maternal health care. Participating state teams will meet monthly from August 2022 to June 2024 for individual state meetings and all-state group workshops. For more information on the affinity group, please see the [fact sheet](#) and sign up for the [informational webinar](#).

To participate in the affinity group, please submit an [Expression of Interest \(EOI\) form](#) by **July 15, 2022, 8:00 PM ET**. Once they receive the EOI form, CMS and the QI technical assistance team will contact the proposed state QI team leader to discuss the state's participation and improvement goals.

Criteria used in selecting participants for the affinity group include:

- Medicaid or CHIP staff leaders or co-leaders who are willing and available to work about 10 hours each month on the QI project
- Well-articulated goals for reducing LRCDD rates
- An understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by state Medicaid and CHIP agencies in working to reduce rates of LRCDD
- Access to data on low-risk cesarean delivery through partners and/or vital records, and access to other data as needed for QI
- Identification of a well-rounded state planning team and an ability to convene and engage partners to drive improvement
- Demonstrated support from Medicaid or CHIP agency executive leadership

1. **Project leadership:** Please complete the following. Either the lead or co-lead must be from the state's Medicaid or CHIP agency. Note the time for this project shared between co-leads is estimated at 10 hours/month.

Project lead	
Name:	Title:
Agency name:	
Phone:	Email:

1

EOI Form Questions (2)

3. State challenges and opportunities

- Key challenges and opportunities related to reducing rates of LRCD
- Known LRCD disparities in the state
- LRCD initiatives already planned or underway in your state that Medicaid and CHIP programs could leverage

4. QI data

- Data available to the state or QI partners to identify areas for improvement and for monitoring progress
- Indication of how often you can get these data

EOI Form Questions (3)

5. Your proposed QI partners

- Names, titles, and affiliations of potential team members
 - NOTE: the QI TA team can help you identify your partners as part of the preparatory work
- Include staff who can help gather and interpret data

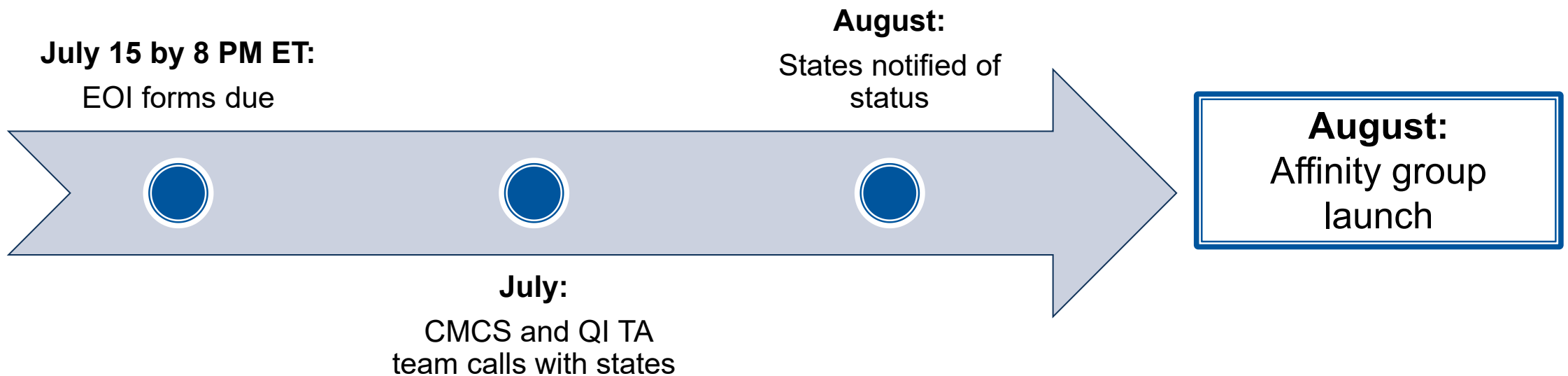
6. Leadership support

- States must have the support of the Medicaid or CHIP director, medical director, or other senior leadership in the agency

7. Additional information

- Any additional information you would like to share

Proposed Timeline for EOI Review and Startup



Questions

Lekisha Daniel-Robinson, Mathematica

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Q&A

All (0)

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Announcements and Next Steps

Kate Nilles, Mathematica

Webinar Recordings, Slides and Other Information

Affinity Group EOI submissions due Friday, July 15, 2022, at 8:00 pm ET

- **EOI form available at**
<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/low-risk-cesarean-delivery-eoi.pdf>
- **Webinar recording and slides will be posted on the**
[Medicaid.gov Improving Maternal Health by Reducing Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Learning Collaborative Homepage](#)
- **Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery Affinity Group Fact Sheet available at**
<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/downloads/low-risk-cesarean-delivery-factsheet.pdf>

Thank you for participating!

- Please complete the survey as you exit the webinar



- If you have any questions, please email

MACQualityImprovement@mathematica-mpr.com

