



Quality, Equity, Dignity

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

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# Improving Quality of Care for maternal, newborn and child health

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## In the context of the drive towards Universal Health Coverage

# Every mother and newborn receives quality care throughout the pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal periods

DOI: 10.1111/1471-0528.13451  
[www.bjog.org](http://www.bjog.org)

Commentary

### Quality of care for pregnant women and newborns—the WHO vision

Ö Tunçalp,<sup>a</sup> WM Were,<sup>b</sup> C MacLennan,<sup>b</sup> OT Oladapo,<sup>a</sup> AM Gülmezoglu,<sup>a</sup> R Bahl,<sup>b</sup> B Daelmans,<sup>b</sup>  
M Mathai,<sup>b</sup> L Say,<sup>a</sup> F Kristensen,<sup>c</sup> M Temmerman,<sup>a</sup> F Bustreo<sup>c</sup>





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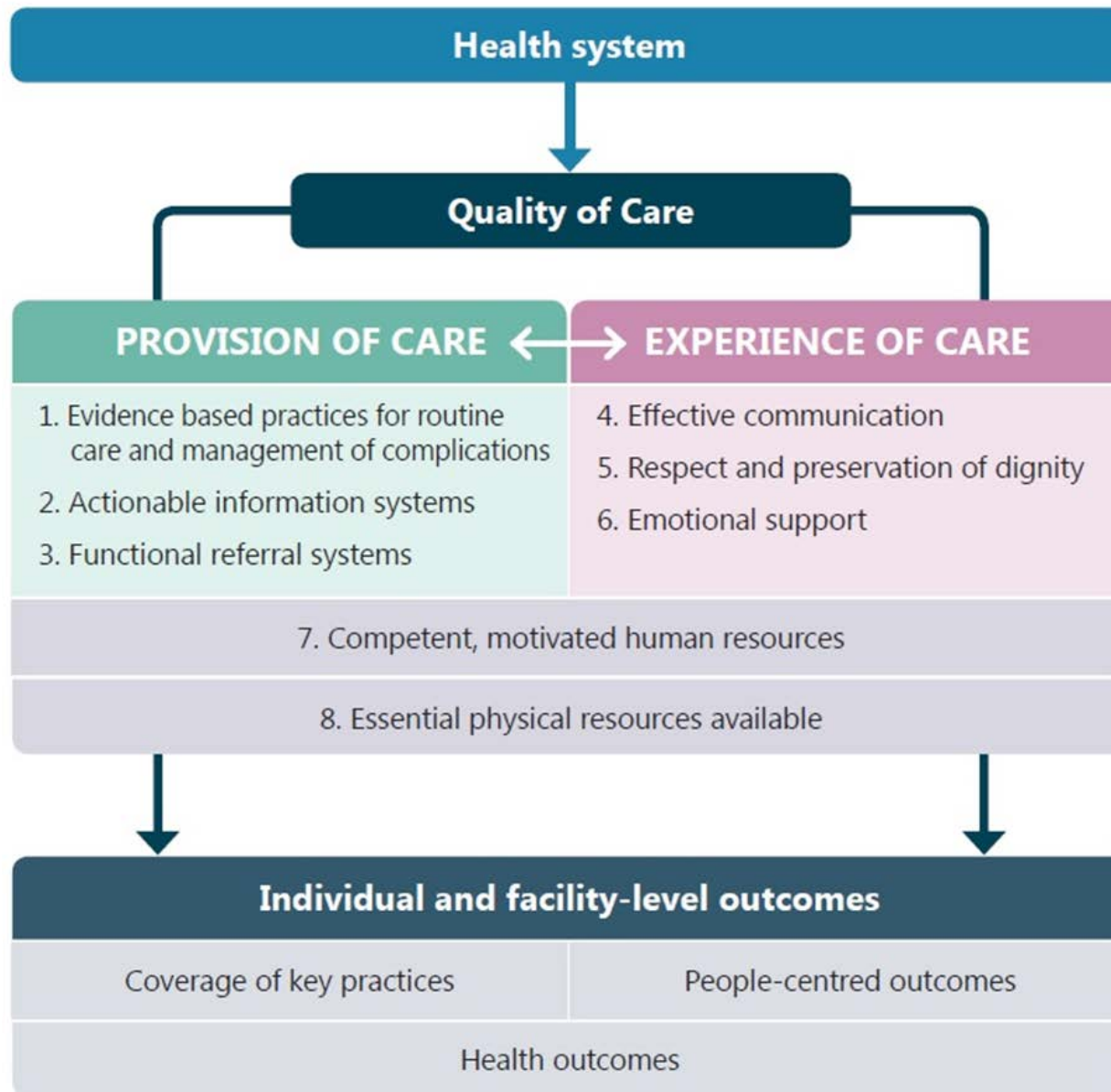
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## Definition of Quality of Care

Quality of care is defined as the extent to which health services provided to individuals and populations improve desired health outcomes. In order to achieve this, health care needs to be *safe, effective, timely, efficient, equitable, and people-centred*



# Conceptual framework





# QoC Network Strategic Objectives

- **LEADERSHIP:** Build and strengthen national institutions and mechanisms for improving quality of care in the health sector
- **ACTION:** Accelerate and sustain implementation of quality of care improvements for mothers and newborns
- **LEARNING:** Facilitate learning, share knowledge and generate evidence on quality of care
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Develop, strengthen and sustain institutions and mechanisms for accountability for quality of care



# Implementation framework

Establish national policy, strategy and structures

Build a broad coalition of stakeholders

Conduct a landscape analysis and review data from health facilities

Develop an operational plan and assign responsibility

Adapt and adopt quality of care standards

Agree indicators and monitoring framework

Build capability for quality improvement interventions

