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Quality, Equity, Dignity

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

Updates – June 2020



Delivering quality essential maternal, newborn and child health services during COVID-19: Referral and maternal complications

Webinar on Thursday 9 July, 2020 at 11 am GMT, 1 pm CEST, 2 pm EAT

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This webinar will discuss how health professionals changed the way they provide quality maternal care – especially when it comes to referrals and maternal complications – during the COVID19 pandemic.

The presentations will be followed by an ‘Ask the experts’ session.

Speakers:

- Dr. Loveday Penn-Kekana, Assistant Professor of Maternal Health and Health Systems at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and CIRCLE/USAID Technical Lead

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This is the third webinar in a series on 'Delivering quality essential maternal, newborn and child health services during COVID-19'. Quality of care experts will share global guidance and country experiences around quality of care for maternal, newborn and child health in the context of COVID-19.

The series is co-hosted by the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and the QoC subgroup of the Child Health Task Force, with the support of UNICEF and the World Health Organization.

See the whole series and register: <http://www.qualityofcarenetwork.org/webinar-series2>

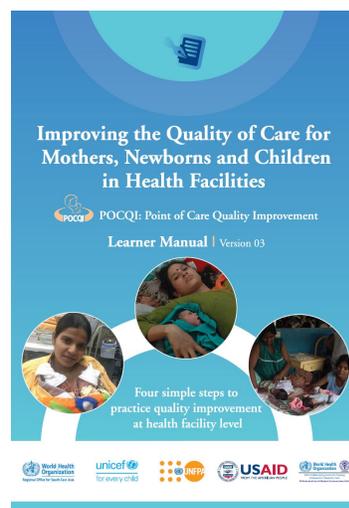
Photo: A pregnant woman waits for a check-up and treatment at Adumi Health Center, Arua District, Uganda, in December 2015. ©UNICEF/UN033230/Ose

New POCQI training manuals

WHO-South East Asia Regional Office along with partners have released the third version of a quality improvement model called POCQI - Point of Care Quality Improvement.

POCQI is a simplified 4 step model to enable and empower health worker teams to use their local data to identify quality gaps (problems or issues), undertake root-cause analysis in their own context, and identify and implement a solution to address the identified quality problem. Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles are used to test the ideas using local data.

POCQI training package version 1, launched in 2017, included a case study on at-birth care for mothers and babies in the labour room to train teams of doctors and midwives. Version 2 included an additional case study on sick newborn care in the setting of a newborn unit. The new version 3 adds a case study on pediatric care in the setting of a pediatric ward.



The POCQI model has been implemented widely in India and other countries in South-East Asia, and has been introduced in African countries, China and Uzbekistan.

Download the [POCQI Facilitator Manual](#) version 3 and the [POCQI Learner Manual](#) version 3

Improving Care of Mothers and Babies®

A guide for improvement teams



A legacy of tools and resources from the USAID-ASSIST project

Since 2012, the USAID Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) Project has worked in over 40 countries, building the capacity of service delivery organisations and implementing partners in USAID-supported countries to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, client-centeredness, safety, accessibility, and equity of the health and social services provided. As it wraps up, USAID-ASSIST has put together a collection of 25 quality improvement (QI) resources that captures key learning from its work.

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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*.

www.qualityofcarenetwork.org

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Top photo: Four of the eight children in the Kazadi family, in Lubumbashi, DRC in August 2013. ©UNICEF/UNI262779/Diana Mrazikova

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