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Quality, Equity, Dignity

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

**Updates- April 2021**

## OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE QUALITY OF CARE NETWORK REPORT

*Evolution, Implementation and Progress 2017- 2020*

**Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup> at 8am EDT/ 2pm CET**

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**Part 1:** Progress in implementation of the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. Findings and recommendations from the first Network report

**Part 2:** Reflections from Network implementing countries and partners

**Part 3:** The way forward: interactive discussion, questions and answers

### Presenters and Panelists:

- Dr. Anshu Banerjee, Director for Maternal, Newborn and Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing Department, World Health Organization HQ
- Dr. Desalegne Bekele, Coordinator, Health Service Quality Improvement Team, Patient Safety Focal, Ministry of Health Ethiopia
- Dr. Minara Chowdhury, Senior Advisor QI USAID's MaMoni MNCSP and Country Director Bangladesh, Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- Dr. Tedbabe Degefie Hailegebriel, Senior Adviser Health, UNICEF
- Dr. Lily Kak, Senior Adviser in Newborn Health, USAID



- Dr. Blerta Maliqi, Technical Officer, World Health Organization HQ
- Dr. Malangizo Mbewe, Acting Director, Quality Management Department, Ministry of Health and Population Malawi
- Dr. Nuhu Omeiza Yaqub, Technical Officer, Quality Management, World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa
- Dr. Shams Syed, Unit Head, Quality of Care, World Health Organization HQ

## TAKE THE NETWORK SURVEY

*Learning from implementation - Prioritizing topics for documentation and sharing of learning by the Network for Improving Quality Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and the National Quality of Care Forums of participating countries.*

Since 2017, 10 countries - Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania - have joined forces in the Network for Improving Quality Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

One of the strategic objectives of the Network is to facilitate documentation and sharing of learning on quality care (QoC) implementation and scaling up. The 2017-2020 Network evolution implementation and progress report identifies critical levers that countries interested in implementing QoC at scale need to consider. Based on these levers of change that shape the implementation strategy and approach, the Network has articulated a number of topics for documentation by the Network countries and beyond.

We invite your participation to prioritize these topics by identifying the most relevant and urgent learnings that may help in your work to scale up QoC for MNCH.

The results of this prioritization will then be shared with the Network countries to inform the lesson learned that will be documented and shared during their National Forums on QoC that are being hosted by the Network countries throughout 2021, as well as the Network global learning meeting that will take place in early 2022. These documented experiences will also be publicly available on the Network and the WHO websites, and will be shared in upcoming meetings and conferences.

Take the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S52HXCJ>

The survey will run until Sunday 16 May 2021. Thank you for your participation.

## ETHIOPIA'S NATIONAL QUALITY SUMMIT- MAY 6 & 7 2021

The Ministry of Health, Ethiopia is hosting a National Quality Summit on May 6th and 7th to share the learnings from their MNH Quality Improvement initiative and other key quality improvement programs in Ethiopia. This Summit will focus on the objectives, interventions, results and learnings from implementation of quality of care for MNCH in Ethiopia and reflect on strategies to hold the gains and increase improvement. New national strategic directions will also be presented at the Summit when the Ministry of Health launches the new National Healthcare Quality and Safety Strategy (2021-2025). Panel discussions are planned on the themes of people-centered care, integrated health services, learning health systems using data to drive improvement and the roles of healthcare financing, accreditation for healthcare quality and safety.

## UPCOMING NETWORK WEBINAR SERIES



## Transforming Care for Small and Sick Newborns

### *Implementing the Standards of Care for Small and Sick Newborns*

**Wednesday 26 May at 8am EDT/ 2pm CET**

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This webinar series marks the continuation of the Transforming Care for Small and Sick Newborns Series 2020. The 2020 series focused on country experiences to transform care, taking deep dives into the WHO & UNICEF report; *Survive & Thrive Transforming Care for Small and Sick Newborns* (2019).

Taking forward the demand for sharing country experiences, challenges faced and lesson learned, this new series will run through in 2021 and 2022. The series will accompany the learning and experience in implementing the WHO Standards for improving the quality of care for small and sick newborns in facilities (2020) and related guidance for their implementation. The full calendar webinar series will be shared shortly.

To kick off the series, this first webinar on 26 May 2021 will firstly take a deep dive into the new small and sick newborns standards and an upcoming implementation toolkit to support implementation in countries. Secondly, we will hear an overview of progress to date in the SDG regions with the highest burdens of newborn mortality; Sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia.

## EVENTS

### **International Day of the Midwife: 5 May 2021: Launch of State of the World's Midwives Report (2021) and key events**

On the International Day of the Midwife 2021, the State of the World's Midwifery Report 2021 (UNFPA, WHO, ICM) will be launched. This report provides an updated evidence base and detailed analysis on the impact of midwives on maternal and newborn health outcomes and the return on investment in midwives.

On **5 May 2021**, visit [unfpa.org/sowmy](https://unfpa.org/sowmy) to download the new State of the World's Midwifery Report

## Celebrate the International Day of the Midwife 5 May at 15h30-16h30 CET

Led by Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of WHO and key experts from WHO, UNFPA and ICM along with a panel of midwives from around the world who come together to celebrate IDM 2021 and share headlines on the “State of the Worlds Midwifery Report 2021”.

Zoom: <https://who.zoom.us/j/93187706382>  
Password: MidW.0521

**Celebrating International Day of the Midwife**  
Wednesday, 5 May 2021 | 15:30 - 16:30 CET

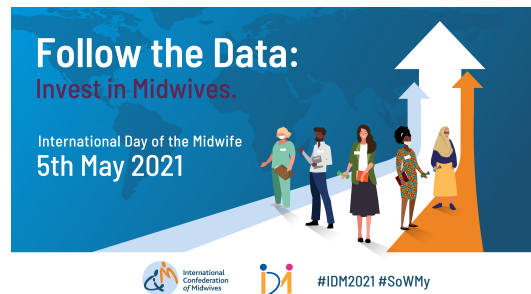
**SPEAKERS**

- Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
WHO Director-General
- Elizabeth Iro**  
Chief Nursing Officer, WHO
- Annela Knutsson**  
Chief Sexual and Reproductive Health, UNFPA
- Sally Pairman**  
Chief Executive Officer, ICM
- Anshu Banerjee**  
Director Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing, WHO
- Fran McConville**  
Facilitator

**MIDWIVES PANEL**

- Harriet Chanza**  
WHO Malawi
- Pragati Sharma**  
WHO India and Headquarters
- Giorgia Cartes**  
Chief Midwife, Chile
- Margrieta Langins**  
WHO Europe
- Michael Larul**  
Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Solomon Islands
- Ros Altawell**  
ICM board member for Eastern Mediterranean Region

*"Follow the data: invest in midwives!"*



### Follow the Data: Invest in Midwives

This year, the International Day of the Midwife will be celebrated on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2021 under the theme “*Follow the Data: Invest in Midwives*”.

IDM calls for the global midwife community to come together to advocate for investment in quality midwifery care around the world and highlight the pivotal role of midwives in achieving SDG 3.1 (reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births by 2030).

## International Confederation of Midwives Virtual Triennial Congress

An interactive Congress is planned throughout the month of June 2021 to convene the global midwife community and to create a space for establishing connections between maternal and newborn health partners and midwife leaders.

[Register](#) for the 32nd ICM Virtual Triennial Congress for events each Wednesday in June 2021.

Access the program of the congress: <https://www.icmvirtualcongress.org/programme-at-a-glance/>

## Institute for Healthcare Improvement Africa Forum 2021: 4-6 May 2021

*The Future of Quality Health Care in Africa*

[Register](#)

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Africa Forum will hold a virtual conference from 4–6 May 2021. The IHI Africa Forum will share tools and techniques needed to sustain and spread improvements and make measurable progress in health facilities or organizations. Experts and peers will share learning on what has worked to improve patient care and staff experience in so many health care settings.

## World Hand Hygiene Day 2021- 5 May 2021

*Seconds save lives – clean your hands!*

Infection Prevention and Control, including hand hygiene, is critical to achieve UHC as it is a practical and evidence-based approach with demonstrated impact on quality of care and patient safety across all levels of the health system.

The WHO annual campaign for World Hand Hygiene day calls on health care workers and facilities **to achieve effective hand hygiene action at the point of care.**



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 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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### Contact:

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

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